

LAND USE ELEMENT

Introduction

The Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) for the years 2015 and 2025 constitutes the fifth major update of the CDMP Land Use Element. However, the pattern of land use and urban growth promoted in the original 1975 edition of the CDMP remains essentially unchanged. This growth policy includes, among other intents, that the intensification of physical development and expansion of the urban area should be managed to occur 1) at a rate commensurate with projected population and economic growth; 2) in a contiguous pattern centered around a network of high-intensity urban centers well connected by multimodal intraurban transportation facilities; and 3) in locations which optimize efficiency in public service delivery and conservation of valuable natural resources.

The Land Use Element identifies locations in Miami-Dade County where various land uses and intensities of use will be permitted to occur in the future. It establishes and articulates broad policy in keeping with the traditional role of the metropolitan area comprehensive plan as a framework for, or schematic plan of, areawide future development.

The Land Use Element is at the same time both reactive and proactive. It not only reflects previously adopted plans and established land use and zoning patterns, it also establishes the County's policy regarding future zoning and land use patterns. Similarly, while it reflects existing urban service capacities and constraints, it also establishes locations where future service improvements will have to follow. It also both reflects, and seeks to promote, activity in the private land market. Recent development trends are carefully considered, however, the Land Use Element endeavors to assert County influence on locations and intensity of future development activity.

The Land Use Element contains all of the material required by Section 163.3177(6)(a), *Florida Statutes* (F.S.) and Section 9J-5.006, *Florida Administrative Code* (F.A.C.) which establishes the minimum requirements for contents of the future land use element. Moreover, the Miami-Dade County portion of the Big Cypress Area of Critical State Concern is affected by, and addressed in this Element as well as in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage Element. The Big Cypress "Critical Area" boundaries coincide directly with the boundaries of the Big Cypress National Preserve in Miami-Dade County which are identified on the existing and future land use maps contained in this Element.

The *Adopted Components* of the Land Use Element include the Land Use Goal, Objectives and Policies, the Land Use Plan map for 2015 and 2025 and related text titled "Interpretation of the Land Use Plan Map", and maps of future historical and natural resources. Also included is a "monitoring program" for periodically measuring progress being made in implementing the comprehensive plan.

Supporting material for this Element includes the 1988 *Support Components* report, and the 2003 Evaluation and Appraisal Report which contains background data and information, analyses of land use trends and synopses of urban service and environmental opportunities and constraints.

The environmental and service analyses included in the land use support materials are brief synopses of extensive inventory and analyses contained in the Conservation and various service Elements of the Plan. The reader is referred to the 2003 EAR report addressing those elements for complete analyses of those services.

GOAL

PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTION OF LAND USE AND SERVICES TO MEET THE PHYSICAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC NEEDS OF THE PRESENT AND FUTURE POPULATIONS IN A TIMELY AND EFFICIENT MANNER THAT WILL MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE NATURAL AND MAN-MADE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES, AND PRESERVE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S UNIQUE AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

Objective LU-1

The location and configuration of Miami-Dade County's urban growth through the year 2025 shall emphasize concentration and intensification of development around centers of activity, development of well designed communities containing a variety of uses, housing types and public services, renewal and rehabilitation of blighted areas, and contiguous urban expansion when warranted, rather than sprawl.

Policies

- LU-1A. High intensity, well designed urban centers shall be facilitated by Miami-Dade County at locations having high countywide multimodal accessibility.
- LU-1B. Major centers of activity, industrial complexes, regional shopping centers, large-scale office centers and other concentrations of significant employment shall be the structuring elements of the metropolitan area and shall be sited on the basis of metropolitan-scale considerations at locations with good countywide, multi-modal accessibility.
- LU-1C. Miami-Dade County shall give priority to infill development on vacant sites in currently urbanized areas, and redevelopment of substandard or underdeveloped environmentally suitable urban areas contiguous to existing urban development where all necessary urban services and facilities are projected to have capacity to accommodate additional demand.

- LU-1D. In conducting its planning, regulatory, capital improvements and intergovernmental coordination activities, Miami-Dade County shall seek to facilitate the planning of residential areas as neighborhoods which include recreational, educational and other public facilities, houses of worship, and safe and convenient circulation of automotive, pedestrian and bicycle traffic.
- LU-1E. In planning and designing all new residential development and redevelopment in the county, Miami-Dade County shall vigorously promote implementation of the "Guidelines for Urban Form" contained in the "Interpretation of The Land Use Plan Map" text adopted as an extension of these policies.
- LU-1F. To promote housing diversity and to avoid creation of monotonous developments, Miami-Dade County shall vigorously promote the inclusion of a variety of housing types in all residential communities through its area planning, zoning, subdivision, site planning and housing finance activities, among others. In particular, Miami-Dade County shall review its zoning and subdivision practices and regulations and shall amend them, as practical, to promote this policy.
- LU-1G. Business developments shall preferably be placed in clusters or nodes in the vicinity of major roadway intersections, and not in continuous strips or as isolated spots, with the exception of small neighborhood nodes. Business developments shall be designed to relate to adjacent development, and large uses should be planned and designed to serve as an anchor for adjoining smaller businesses or the adjacent business district. Granting of commercial or other non-residential zoning by the County is not necessarily warranted on a given property by virtue of nearby or adjacent roadway construction or expansion, or by its location at the intersection of two roadways.
- LU-1H. The County should identify sites having good potential to serve as greenbelts, and should recommend retention and enhancement strategies, where warranted. Such greenbelts should be suggested on the basis of their ability to provide aesthetically pleasing urban spaces, recreational opportunities, or wildlife benefits. Considered sites should include canal, road or powerline rights-of-way, or portions thereof, particularly where they could link other parklands, wildlife habitats, or other open spaces.
- LU-1I. The County shall consider urban design, water and energy conservation and wildlife habitat when designing sites and selecting landscape material for all public projects.
- LU-1J. Miami-Dade County will maintain its commitment to improve Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-eligible areas, enhance the County's Enterprise Zone and participate in the Empowerment Zone program as tools to expand the economy in locally distressed areas.

- LU-1K. Miami-Dade County will maintain and enhance the housing assistance and public housing programs addressed in the Housing Element as a means to improve conditions of low and moderate income residents.
- LU-1L. Public facility and service providers shall give priority to eliminating any infrastructure deficiencies to facilitate rehabilitation or renewal of blighted areas.
- LU-1M. In formulating or amending development regulations, Miami-Dade County shall avoid creating disincentives to redevelopment of blighted areas. Where redevelopment occurs within the urban area, requirements for contributions toward provision of public facilities may be moderated where underutilized facilities or surplus capacities exist, and credit toward required infrastructure contributions may be given for the increment of development replaced by redevelopment.
- LU-1N. Miami-Dade County shall continue to support the Metro-Miami Action Plan to improve conditions of disadvantaged groups of the community.
- LU-1O. Miami-Dade County shall seek to prevent discontinuous, scattered development at the urban fringe particularly in the Agriculture Areas, through its CDMP amendment process, regulatory and capital improvements programs and intergovernmental coordination activities.
- LU-1P. While continuing to protect and promote agriculture as a viable economic activity in the County, Miami-Dade County shall explore and may authorize alternative land uses in the South Dade agricultural area which would be compatible with agricultural activities and associated rural residential uses, and which would promote ecotourism related to the area's agricultural and natural resource base including Everglades and Biscayne National Parks.
- LU-1Q. It is the policy of Miami-Dade County that the siting of both public and private schools throughout the County shall conform with the school siting policies adopted under CDMP Objective EDU-2.
- LU-1R. Miami-Dade County shall take steps to reserve the amount of land necessary to maintain an economically viable agricultural industry. Miami-Dade County shall adopt and develop a transfer of developments rights (TDR) program to preserve agricultural land that will be supplemented by a purchase of development rights program to preserve agricultural land and environmentally sensitive property. The density cap of the land use category in the receiving area established by the TDR program may be exceeded. Land development regulations shall be developed to determine the extent that the density cap may be exceeded based on parcel size but in no case shall it exceed 20 percent.
- LU-1S. The Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP) shall be consistent with the Miami-Dade County Strategic Plan adopted by the County Commission on

June 3, 2003 by Resolution R-664-03. The Miami-Dade County Strategic Plan includes Countywide community goals, strategies and key outcomes for Miami-Dade County government. Key outcomes of the Strategic Plan that are relevant to the Land Use element of the CDMP include increased urban infill development and decreased urban sprawl, protection of viable agriculture and environmentally-sensitive land, improved community design, reduced flooding, improved infrastructure and redevelopment to attract businesses to underserved and distressed areas, available and high quality green space throughout the County, and more integrated land-use development to decrease dependence on automobiles.

Objective LU-2

Decisions regarding the location, extent and intensity of future land use in Miami-Dade County, and urban expansion in particular, will be based upon the physical and financial feasibility of providing, by the year 2015, all urbanized areas with services at levels of service (LOS) which meet or exceed the minimum standards adopted in the Capital Improvements Element.

Policies

- LU-2A. All development orders authorizing new, or significant expansion of existing, urban land uses shall be contingent upon the provision of services at or above the Level of Service (LOS) standards specified in the Capital Improvements Element (CIE).
- LU-2B. Priority in the provision of services and facilities and the allocation of financial resources for services and facilities in Miami-Dade County shall be given first to serve the area within the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) of the Land Use Plan (LUP) map. Second priority shall support the staged development of the Urban Expansion Area (UEA). Urban services and facilities which support or encourage urban development in Agriculture and Open Land areas shall be avoided, except for those improvements necessary to protect public health and safety and which service the localized needs of these non-urban areas.
- LU-2C. Miami-Dade County shall maintain and enhance, as necessary, impact fee and comparable programs and procedures to require all development, regardless of size, to contribute its proportionate share of capital facilities, or funds or land therefore, necessary to accommodate impact of the proposed development or increment of redevelopment over and above preexisting development on a site. Miami-Dade County shall periodically review and update fee schedules to ensure that all public marginal costs are appropriately recognized, and that fee structures reflect pertinent geographic (i.e., core, fringe, or rural area) variability in facility usage.

LU-2D. Miami-Dade County agencies shall continue and, where possible, improve their efforts to coordinate projects to construct or repair infrastructure such as roadways and utilities in order to minimize the disruption and inconvenience caused by such construction activities.

LU-2E. The Department of Planning and Zoning (DP&Z) shall coordinate and centralize the compilation of monitoring information necessary to make determinations regarding existing and projected Levels of Service and to prepare Evaluation and Appraisal Reports for submittal to the State land planning agency, as required by Chapter 163, F.S. and Rule 9J-5, F.A.C.; and all Miami-Dade County agencies shall fully cooperate with the Department by carrying out necessary monitoring and reporting activities identified in the CDMP Monitoring Program.

Objective LU-3

Upon the adoption of the CDMP, the location, design and management practices of development and redevelopment in Miami-Dade County shall ensure the protection of natural resources and systems by recognizing, and sensitively responding to constraints posed by soil conditions, topography, water table level, vegetation type, wildlife habitat, and hurricane and other flood hazards, and by reflecting the management policies contained in resource planning and management plans prepared pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes, and approved by the Governor and Cabinet, or included in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan approved by Congress through the Water Resources Development Act of 2000.

Policies

LU-3A. Development orders in Miami-Dade County shall be consistent with the goals, objectives and policies contained in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage and Coastal Management Elements of this Plan, and with all applicable environmental regulations, as well as all other elements of the CDMP.

LU-3B. All significant natural resources and systems shall be protected from incompatible land use including Biscayne Bay, future coastal and inland wetlands, future potable water-supply wellfield areas identified in the Land Use Element or in adopted wellfield protection plans, and forested portions of Environmentally Sensitive Natural Forest Communities as identified in the Natural Forest Inventory, as may be amended from time to time.

LU-3C. Development in the Big Cypress Area of Critical State Concern, and in the East Everglades as defined in Section 33B-13, Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida (1981) shall be limited to uses, designs and management practices which are consistent with adopted State regulations and policies, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, and related federal, State or County policies, plans or regulations as may be formulated, consistent with the goals, objectives and

policies of this comprehensive plan. Miami-Dade County shall improve its enforcement of East Everglades development regulations and shall improve such regulations if necessary to enable effective enforcement.

LU-3D. Miami-Dade County shall not sponsor any growth-subsidizing programs which promote future population growth and residential development on the barrier islands of Miami-Dade County. The provision of facilities and services to accomplish the timely evacuation of already-developed barrier islands in advance of approaching hurricanes shall be a priority of Miami-Dade County's transportation planning and hurricane preparedness programs.

- LU-3E.
1. By January 1, 2006, Miami-Dade County shall develop and initiate implementation of an integrated land use and water management plan for southeastern Miami-Dade County, based on a Comprehensive Study (the "Study") as described below. The Plan will direct the comprehensive management of land uses and surface and ground water, its quality, quantity, timing, and distribution. The plan will have two time horizons: 1) a short-term component extending through the year 2025, and 2) a long-term component extending through the year 2050. The overall goal of the plan will be to optimize the economic, social, and environmental values currently recognized in the County's Comprehensive Development Master Plan in the study area. As shown in Figure 1, the primary study area includes Basins C-2, C-100, C-1, C-102, Goulds, C-103, North Canal, and Florida City; the Model Lands; Drainage Areas DA-3 and DA-4; and the area between South Dixie Highway and Card Sound Road, while the secondary study area includes Canal C-3.
 2. This plan and study, to be known collectively as the South Dade Watershed Plan (the "Plan"), will be prepared by an impartial person or entity approved by the Board. The selection process will include representatives from the Biscayne National Park Buffer Development Review Committee (the "Working Group") on the selection committee. The Working Group will review and make recommendations regarding the final RFP.
 3. The Plan must fulfill the following specific objectives:
 - a. To identify and protect lands, including their uses and functions, that are essential for preserving the environmental, economic, and community values of Biscayne National Park;
 - b. To identify and establish mechanisms for protecting constitutional private property rights of owners of land identified in 3 (a) above;
 - c. To support a viable, balanced economy including agriculture, recreation, tourism, and urban development in the Plan area; and
 - d. To assure compatible land uses and zoning decisions in the Study Area consistent with long term objectives for a sustainable South Miami-Dade.

4. The Study must project, examine, and analyze surface- and ground water uses and corresponding land uses, including water uses for sustaining and restoring the environment, sustaining economically viable agriculture, providing flood protection, supplying and protecting drinking water, and other water uses pertinent to probable land uses. The Study must provide data and analysis necessary to thoroughly support the South Dade Watershed Plan. The Study must include an examination and analysis of:
 - a. Examples and models of mechanisms of conservation;
 - b. All relevant studies pertaining to the Study Area;
 - c. Property rights of landowners as they relate to objectives of the plan.
 - d. Existing and needed numeric standards for quality, quantity, timing and distribution of waters into and of Biscayne National Park;
 - e. Existing and needed studies of freshwater and groundwater supply;
 - f. Methods and policies for best management practices of all sources of water runoff and levels of service for flood control in the Study Area;
 - g. Socioeconomic factors for optimization of the objectives to the Plan; and
 - h. Ways to integrate the Plan into the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.
5. It is recognized that the subject Plan will provide extensive information that will greatly assist in the consideration of proposed new development in the Study Area. Until the plan is approved, the Board shall appoint a review committee (the Biscayne National Park Buffer Development Review Committee), fairly representing the interests of the Working Group, to evaluate and make recommendations on all requested development approvals and CDMP amendments in the Study Area outside the UDB which require initial approval at a public hearing. The committee's recommendations shall specifically address potential impacts on Biscayne National Park and consistency with the relevant provisions of the CDMP. Until the Plan is completed and adopted, the appropriate County Boards will apply heightened scrutiny to proposed changes in the UDB, land use designations and, zoning, including unusual uses. Because implementation of the Plan was not initiated by January 1, 2002, the BCC re-evaluated and adopted interim measures to further the objectives of the Plan upon recommendation by the Biscayne National Park Buffer Development Review Committee.

LU-3F. Any zoning action or amendment to the CDMP that would approve any use other than direct production and permitted residential uses of property, in an area designated as Agriculture, whether as a primary use or as an accessory or subordinated use to an agricultural use, or action that would liberalize standards or allowances governing such other uses on land that is, a) outside the Urban

Development Boundary (UDB), and b) within one mile of the right-of-way line of any portions of Krome Avenue designated in this Plan for improvement to 4-lanes, shall require an affirmative vote of not less than five members of the affected Community Zoning Appeals Board and two-thirds of the total membership of the Board of County Commissioners then in office, where such Community Zoning Appeals Board or Board of County Commissioners issues a decision. The term "direct agricultural production" includes crops, livestock, nurseries, groves, packing houses, and barns but not uses such as houses of worship, schools, sale of produce and other items, and outdoor storage vehicles. This policy is not intended to permit any use not otherwise permitted by the CDMP. Any modification to this section to allow additional uses within the one mile distance from Krome Avenue shall require an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the Board of County Commissioners then in office.¹

LU-3G. Any zoning action, or amendment to the Land Use plan map that would approve a use of property other than limestone quarrying, seasonal agriculture or permitted residential use in an area designated as Open Land on land that is, a) outside the Urban Development Boundary (UDB), and b) within one mile of the right-of-way line of any portions of Krome Avenue designated in this Plan for improvement to 4-lanes, shall require an affirmative vote of not less than five members of the affected Community Zoning Appeals Board and two-thirds of the total membership of the Board of County Commissioners then in office, where such Community Zoning Appeals Board or Board of County Commissioners issues a decision. This policy is not intended to permit any use not otherwise permitted by the CDMP. Any modification to this section to allow additional uses within the one mile distance from Krome Avenue shall require an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the Board of County Commissioners then in office.²

LU-3H. Any zoning action, or amendment to the Land Use plan map that would approve a use of property other than seasonal agricultural use in the Dade-Broward Levee Basin or permitted residential use in an area designated as Environmental Protection, on land that is, a) outside the Urban Development Boundary (UDB), and b) within one mile of the right-of-way line of any portions of Krome Avenue designated in this Plan for improvement to 4-lanes, shall require an affirmative vote of not less than five members of the affected Community Zoning Appeals Board and two-thirds of the total membership of the Board of County Commissioners then in office, where such Community Zoning Appeals Board or Board of County Commissioners issues a decision. This policy is not intended to permit any use not otherwise permitted by the CDMP. Any modification to

¹ Policy on Appeal, Not Yet Applicable
October 2001 Cycle, Ordinance No. 02-198, October 10, 2002

² Policy on Appeal, Not Yet Applicable
October 2001 Cycle, Ordinance No. 02-198, October 10, 2002

this section to allow additional uses within the one mile distance from Krome Avenue shall require an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the Board of County Commissioners then in office.

- LU-3I. By 2007, Miami-Dade County shall identify disposal sites for dredged materials as needed to assure proper long-term management of material dredged from navigation channels, sufficient long-range disposal capacity, environmental sensitivity and compatibility, and reasonable cost and transportation.

Objective LU-4

Miami-Dade County shall, by the year 2015, reduce the number of land uses, which are inconsistent with the uses designated on the LUP map and interpretive text, or with the character of the surrounding community.

Policies

- LU-4A. When evaluating compatibility among proximate land uses, the County shall consider such factors as noise, lighting, shadows, glare, vibration, odor, runoff, access, traffic, parking, height, bulk, scale of architectural elements, landscaping, hours of operation, buffering, and safety, as applicable.
- LU-4B. Uses designated on the LUP map and interpretive text, which generate or cause to generate significant noise, dust, odor, vibration, or truck or rail traffic shall be protected from damaging encroachment by future approval of new incompatible uses such as residential uses.
- LU-4C. Residential neighborhoods shall be protected from intrusion by uses that would disrupt or degrade the health, safety, tranquility, character, and overall welfare of the neighborhood by creating such impacts as excessive density, noise, light, glare, odor, vibration, dust or traffic.
- LU-4D. Uses which are supportive but potentially incompatible shall be permitted on sites within functional neighborhoods, communities or districts only where proper design solutions can and will be used to integrate the compatible and complementary elements and buffer any potentially incompatible elements.
- LU-4E. Zoning shall be examined to determine consistency with the Comprehensive Plan, and if deemed necessary to remedy an inconsistency, rezoning action shall be initiated. Examination could occur through a special zoning study, area planning activity, or through a study of related issues.
- LU-4F. Miami-Dade County shall implement the Homestead Air Force Base Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) Report guidelines through the Land Use Element of the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master

Plan, the Miami-Dade County Zoning Ordinance and the Florida Building Code to provide for land use compatibility in the vicinity of the Homestead Air Reserve Base.

- LU-4G. Through its planning, regulatory, capital improvements and intergovernmental coordination activities, Miami-Dade County shall seek to ensure that suitable land is provided for placement of utility facilities necessary to support proposed development. Necessary utility facilities may be located throughout Miami-Dade County in all land use categories as provided in the "Interpretation of the Land Use Plan Map" text.

Objective LU-5

Upon the adoption of this plan, all public and private activities regarding the use, development and redevelopment of land and the provision of urban services and infrastructure shall be consistent with the goal, objectives and policies of this Element, with the adopted Population Estimates and Projections, and with the future uses provided by the adopted Land Use Plan (LUP) map and accompanying text titled "Interpretation of the Land Use Plan Map", as balanced with the Goals, Objectives and Policies of all Elements of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan.

Policies

- LU-5A. The textual material titled "Interpretation of the Land Use Plan Map" contained in this Element establishes standards for allowable land uses, and densities or intensities of use for each land use category identified on the adopted Land Use Plan (LUP) map, and is declared to be an integral part of these adopted Land Use Policies.
- LU-5B. All development orders authorizing a new land use or development, or redevelopment, or significant expansion of an existing use shall be contingent upon an affirmative finding that the development or use conforms to, and is consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the CDMP including the adopted LUP map and accompanying "Interpretation of the Land Use Plan Map". The Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning shall be the principal administrative interpreter of the CDMP.
- LU-5C. All planning activities pertaining to development and redevelopment and the provision of public services and facilities in Miami-Dade County shall be consistent with the "Population Estimates and Projections" contained in this Element, and with the locations and extent of future land uses as identified by the LUP map and its interpretive text. Plans for providing public facilities and services in Miami-Dade County shall be updated by the responsible service providers as soon as possible after the filing of applications to amend the CDMP population projections, and the corresponding elements of the CDMP shall be updated in association with the updating of the facility/service plans.

- LU-5D. When estimates of current population are periodically updated by the Miami-Dade County Department of Planning and Zoning or U.S. Census Bureau, and when revised projections of future population or population distributions are officially filed by the Department as applications to amend the CDMP, these new estimates and projections may be used for planning in Miami-Dade County in lieu of previously published population estimates and the population projections currently adopted in the CDMP.

Objective LU-6

Miami-Dade County shall protect, preserve, ensure the proper management, and promote public awareness of historical, architectural and archaeologically significant sites and districts in Miami-Dade County, and shall continue to seek the addition of new listings to the National Register, and increase the number of locally designated historical and archeological sites, districts and zones.

Policies

- LU-6A. Miami-Dade County shall continue to identify, seek appropriate designation, and protect properties of historic, architectural and archaeological significance.
- LU-6B. Miami-Dade County shall place increased emphasis on districts, thematic groups and multiple resource listings with local as well as National Register historic sites.
- LU-6C. Miami-Dade County shall seek financial resources to develop, and promote implementation of management plans for the preservation, protection and adaptive reuse of historic and archaeological resources on County property.
- LU-6D. Public acquisition of historic and archaeological resources shall be pursued when public ownership would provide a major public benefit to the people of Miami-Dade County, when necessary financial resources can be secured, and when public acquisition is the last available resort.
- LU-6E. Historic structures shall be used to accommodate government functions where reuse of a facility is financially and logistically advantageous.
- LU-6F. Miami-Dade County shall seek to develop technical, legal and financial incentive programs to encourage private sector participation in the preservation and protection of historical and archaeological resources.
- LU-6G. Miami-Dade County will assist municipalities in developing fully operational historic and archaeological resource preservation programs that meet the minimum standards set by the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

- LU-6H. Through the Office of Historic Preservation, Miami-Dade County shall improve communication for multi-agency review processes, and expand informational networking with municipal, State and regional agencies and with the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians and private non-profit organizations.
- LU-6I. Miami-Dade County shall pursue efforts with other local, State and federal agencies to develop policies that recognize the importance of designated historic resources and that comply with the provisions of the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance.
- LU-6J. Miami-Dade County shall seek to increase public awareness of the value of local historic and archaeological resources through support from the print and broadcast media, presentations, conferences, seminars and special programs and events such as Dade Heritage Days and National Historic Preservation Week, and by seeking emphasis of local history by the Miami-Dade County Public School System, particularly in grades K through 11.
- LU-6K. Awareness of historic sites and districts shall be promoted through tourist programs; expansion of the historic plaques and markers program; and production and dissemination of publications on local archaeology, historic sites, and development over 50 years of age.
- LU-6L. Through the Office of Historic Preservation in consultation with the Department of Planning and Zoning, Miami-Dade County shall formulate procedures for establishing Thematic Resource Districts (TRDs). These overlay districts shall contain architectural and landscape design guidelines, and may authorize approval of additional compatible uses, consistent with and which promote the purposes of the particular district.

Objective LU-7

Miami-Dade County shall require all new development and redevelopment in existing and planned transit corridors and urban centers to be planned and designed to promote transit-oriented development (TOD), and transit use, which mixes residential, retail, office, open space and public uses in a pedestrian-friendly environment that promotes the use of rapid transit services.

Policies

- LU-7A. Through its various planning, regulatory and development activities, Miami-Dade County shall encourage development of a wide variety of residential and non-residential land uses and activities in nodes around rapid transit stations to produce short trips, minimize transfers, attract transit ridership, and promote travel patterns on the transit line that are balanced directionally and temporally to promote transit operational and financial efficiencies. Land uses that may be

approved around transit stations shall include housing, shopping and offices in moderate to high densities and intensities, complemented by compatible entertainment, cultural uses and human varying mixes. The particular uses that are approved in a given station area should, a) respect the character of the nearby community, b) strive to serve the needs of the community for housing and services, and, c) promote a balance in the range of existing and planned land uses along the subject transit line. Rapid transit station sites and their vicinity shall be developed as "urban centers" as provided in this plan element under the heading Urban Centers.

- LU-7B. It is the policy of Miami-Dade County that both the County and its municipalities shall accommodate new development and redevelopment around rapid transit stations that is well designed, conducive to both pedestrian and transit use, and architecturally attractive. In recognition that many transit riders begin and end their trips as pedestrians, pedestrian accommodations shall include, as appropriate, continuous sidewalks to the transit station, small blocks and closely intersecting streets, buildings oriented to the street or other pedestrian paths, parking lots predominantly to the rear and sides of buildings, primary building entrances as close to the street or transit stop as to the parking lot, shade trees, awnings, and other weather protection for pedestrians.
- LU-7C. On all streets served by Metrobus and all arterial or collector streets designated in the Mass Transit Subelement as year 2015 or 2025 potential service areas,
- i) New non-residential buildings and substantial alterations¹ of existing non-residential buildings, and residential buildings wherever practical, shall provide at least one full-time building entrance that is recognizable and accessible from the street and is comparably as close to the street and/or bus stop as it is to the primary parking lot; and
 - ii) New residential and non-residential developments, subdivisions and replats shall provide for buildings that front the transit street, or provide streets or pedestrian connections that intersect with the transit street in close proximity to bus stops not more than 700 feet apart and, as appropriate, shall provide for new bus stops and/or pullouts.
- LU-7D. Redevelopment of property within one-half mile of existing or planned mass transit stations and bus routes shall not cause an increase in walking distances from nearby areas to the transit services and shall, wherever practical, be done in a manner that reduces walking distances and is comfortable and attractive to pedestrians.
- LU-7E. Land uses that are not conducive to public transit ridership such as car dealerships, car oriented food franchises, and uses that require transporting large objects should not be permitted to locate or expand within 1/4 mile of rail rapid transit stations.

¹ Substantial alteration, as the term is used in this section, shall mean repair, modification, reconstruction, addition to, or other change to a building during any ten-year period which exceeds 50 per cent of the fair market value of the building.

- LU-7F. Residential development around rail rapid transit stations should have a minimum density of 15 dwelling units per acre (15 du/ac) within 1/4 mile walking distance from the stations and 20 du/ac or higher within 700 feet of the station, and a minimum of 10 du/ac between 1/4 and 1/2 mile walking distance from the station. Business and office development intensities around rail stations should produce at least 75 employees per acre within 1/4 mile walking distance from the station, 100 employees per acre within 700 feet, and minimum of 50 employees per acre between 1/4 and 1/2 mile walking distance from the station. Where existing and planned urban services and facilities are adequate to accommodate this development as indicated by the minimum level-of-service standards and other policies adopted in this Plan, and where permitted by applicable federal and State laws and regulations, these densities and intensities shall be required in all subsequent development approvals. Where services and facilities are currently or projected to be inadequate, or where required by Policy LU-7A, development may be approved at lower density or intensity provided that the development plan, including any parcel plan, can accommodate, and will not impede, future densification and intensification that will conform with this policy.
- LU-7G. Miami-Dade County should partner with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and affected municipalities to establish a systematic program that will produce transit-oriented development (TOD) plans for the areas within 1/4 to 1/2 mile around all Metrorail, the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC) and South Dade Busway stations. Transit-oriented development is a mix of land uses that promotes transit use and decreases the dependence on automobiles. A phasing program should be established to initiate and formulate updated or new station area plans based on the overall priority categories for urban centers established by the Board of County Commissioners. Within each priority category, the factors for individual area plans may include such conditions as locations and amounts of undeveloped and underutilized land providing development and redevelopment opportunities, ownership, land use patterns, infrastructure and service levels, recent and nearby development activity, and expressions of interest in cooperating by the municipalities.
- LU-7H. The Department of Planning and Zoning shall review land development regulations to identify reforms that would invite, and not impede, transit-oriented development in the station areas.
- LU-7I. Miami-Dade County will review development incentives to encourage higher density, mixed use and transit-oriented development at or near existing and future transit stations and corridors.

Objective LU-8

Miami-Dade County shall maintain a process for periodic amendment to the Land Use Plan map, consistent with the adopted Goals, Objectives and Policies of this Plan, which will provide that the Land Use Plan Map accommodates projected countywide growth.

Policies

- LU-8A. Miami-Dade County shall strive to accommodate residential development in suitable locations and densities which reflect such factors as recent trends in location and design of residential units; projected availability of service and infrastructure capacity; proximity and accessibility to employment, commercial and cultural centers; character of existing adjacent or surrounding neighborhoods; avoidance of natural resource degradation; maintenance of quality of life and creation of amenities. Density patterns should reflect the Guidelines for Urban Form contained in this Element.
- LU-8B. Distribution of neighborhood or community-serving retail sales uses and personal and professional offices throughout the urban area shall reflect the spatial distribution of the residential population, among other salient social, economic and physical considerations.
- LU-8C. Through its planning, capital improvements, cooperative extension, economic development, regulatory and intergovernmental coordination activities, Miami-Dade County shall continue to protect and promote agriculture as a viable economic use of land in Miami-Dade County.
- LU-8D. The maintenance of internal consistency among all Elements of the CDMP shall be a prime consideration in evaluating all requests for amendment to any Element of the Plan. Among other considerations, the LUP map shall not be amended to provide for additional urban expansion unless traffic circulation, mass transit, water sewer, solid waste, drainage and park and recreation facilities necessary to serve the area are included in the plan and the associated funding programs are demonstrated to be viable.
- LU-8E. Applications requesting amendments to the CDMP Land Use Plan map shall be evaluated to consider consistency with the Goals, Objectives and Policies of all Elements, other timely issues, and in particular the extent to which the proposal, if approved, would:
 - i) Satisfy a deficiency in the Plan map to accommodate projected population or economic growth of the County;
 - ii) Enhance or impede provision of services at or above adopted LOS Standards;

- iii) Be compatible with abutting and nearby land uses and protect the character of established neighborhoods; and
- iv) Enhance or degrade environmental or historical resources, features or systems of County significance; and
- v) If located in a planned Urban Center, or within 1/4 mile of an existing or planned transit station, exclusive busway stop, transit center, or standard or express bus stop served by peak period headways of 20 or fewer minutes, would be a use that promotes transit ridership and pedestrianism as indicated in the policies under Objective LU-7, herein.

LU-8F. The Urban Development Boundary (UDB) should contain developable land having capacity to sustain projected countywide residential demand for a period of 10 years after adoption of the most recent Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) plus a 5-year surplus (a total 15-year Countywide supply beyond the date of EAR adoption). The estimation of this capacity shall include the capacity to develop and redevelop around transit stations at the densities recommended in policy LU-7F. The adequacy of non-residential land supplies shall be determined on the basis of land supplies in subareas of the County appropriate to the type of use, as well as the Countywide supply within the UDB. The adequacy of land supplies for neighborhood- and community-oriented business and office uses shall be determined on the basis of localized subarea geography such as Census Tracts, Minor Statistical Areas (MSAs) and combinations thereof. Tiers, Half-Tiers and combinations thereof shall be considered along with the Countywide supply when evaluating the adequacy of land supplies for regional commercial and industrial activities.

LU-8G. When considering land areas to add to the UDB, after demonstrating that a need exists, in accordance with foregoing Policy LU-8F:

- i) The following areas shall not be considered:
 - a) The Northwest Wellfield Protection Area located west of the Turnpike Extension between Okeechobee Road and NW 25 Street and the West Wellfield Protection Area west of SW 157 Avenue between SW 8 Street and SW 42 Street;
 - b) Water Conservation Areas, Biscayne Aquifer Recharge Areas, and Everglades Buffer Areas designated by the South Florida Water Management District;
 - c) The Redland area south of Eureka Drive; and
- ii) The following areas shall be avoided:
 - a) Future Wetlands delineated in the Conservation and Land Use Element;
 - b) Land designated Agriculture on the Land Use Plan map;
 - c) Category 1 hurricane evacuation areas east of the Atlantic Coastal Ridge;

- d) Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan project footprints delineated in Tentatively Selected Plans and/or Project Implementation Reports; and
- iii) The following areas shall be given priority for inclusion, subject to conformance with Policy LU-8F and the foregoing provision of this policy:
 - a) Land within Planning Analysis Tiers having the earliest projected supply depletion year;
 - b) Land contiguous to the UDB;
 - c) Locations within one mile of a planned urban center or extraordinary transit service; and
 - d) Locations having projected surplus service capacity where necessary facilities and services can be readily extended.

Objective LU-9

Miami-Dade County shall continue to maintain, update and enhance the Code of Miami-Dade County, administrative regulations and procedures, and special area planning program to ensure that future land use and development in Miami-Dade County is consistent with the CDMP, and to promote better planned neighborhoods and communities and well designed buildings.

Policies

- LU-9A. To maintain consistency between Miami-Dade County's development regulations and comprehensive plan, Miami-Dade County's land development regulation commission shall review proposals to amend Miami-Dade County's development regulations and shall report on the consistency between said proposals and the CDMP, as required by Chapter 163, F.S.
- LU-9B. Miami-Dade County shall continue to maintain, and enhance as necessary, regulations consistent with the CDMP which govern the use and development of land and which, as a minimum, regulate:
 - i) Land use consistent with the CDMP Land Use Element and CDMP Level of Service Standards;
 - ii) Subdivision of land;
 - iii) Protection of potable water wellfields;
 - iv) Areas subject to seasonal or periodic flooding;
 - v) Stormwater management;
 - vi) Protection of environmentally sensitive lands;
 - vii) Signage; and
 - viii) On-site traffic flow and parking to ensure safety and convenience and that no avoidable off-site traffic flow impediments are caused by development.

The provisions of Policy TC-3A of the Traffic Circulation Subelement, which address access management, shall apply.

- LU-9C. Miami-Dade County shall continue to encourage and promote the transfer of Severable Use Rights (SUR) from lands which are allocated SURs in Chapter 33B, Code of Miami-Dade County, to land located within the Urban Development Boundary as designated on the LUP map. When revising development regulations such as may be required to comply with Chapter 163, F.S., the County shall seek to create additional incentives for acquisition and use of SURs. As recommended in Miami-Dade County's State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program Housing Incentives Plan, the receiver area density bonuses in Dade's SUR program should be increased to improve the effectiveness of the program and the production of affordable housing. The County shall consider modifying the SUR program to provide for the transfer of development rights from land acquired by government for uses other than residential or commercial purposes to development sites inside the UDB.
- LU-9D. Miami-Dade County shall continue to investigate, maintain and enhance methods, standards and regulatory approaches which facilitate sound, compatible mixing of uses in projects and communities.
- LU-9E. Miami-Dade County shall enhance and formalize its standards for defining and ensuring compatibility among proximate uses, and requirements for buffering.
- LU-9F. Miami-Dade County shall formulate and adopt zoning or other regulations to implement the policies for development and design of Metropolitan and Community Urban Centers established in the CDMP through individual ordinances for each urban center.
- LU-9G. Miami-Dade County shall review and revise its development regulations to promote building designs in multi-family residential zoning districts which are more compatible with, and sensitive to, surrounding neighborhoods, and to establish minimum densities for development in multifamily residential zoning districts.
- LU-9H. Miami-Dade County shall reorient its special area planning program to emphasize preparation of physical land use and urban design plans for strategic and high-growth locations, such as urban centers and certain transportation corridors as defined in the CDMP.
- LU-9I. Miami-Dade County shall continue to update and enhance its land development regulations and area planning program to facilitate development of better planned neighborhoods and communities, and well designed buildings, and shall encourage and assist municipalities to do the same.

- LU-9J. Miami-Dade County shall continue to use, but not be limited exclusively to design guidelines established in its urban design manual as additional criteria for use in the review of all applications for new residential, commercial and industrial development in unincorporated Miami-Dade County.
- LU-9K. By 2007, Miami-Dade County shall initiate the review and revision of its Subdivision Regulations to facilitate the development of better planned communities. The Public Works Department shall specifically review and update the Subdivision Regulations for urban design purposes. Changes to be considered shall include provisions for:
- i) Open space in the form of squares, plazas, or green areas in residential and commercial zoning categories; and
 - ii) A hierarchy of street types and designs, ranging from pedestrian and bike paths to boulevards that serve both neighborhood and areawide vehicular and pedestrian trip making needs by addressing cross sections, corner radii, connectivity and rationality of street and pathway networks, and balanced accommodation of automobiles, pedestrians, bicyclists, and landscaping.
- LU-9L. Miami-Dade County shall formulate and adopt zoning overlay or other regulations applicable to land outside the Urban Development Boundary to orient the uses allowed in business and industrial zoning districts to those which support the rural and agricultural economy of the area. Uses permitted by right would relate exclusively to agricultural or mining industries, and other uses would be approvable as special exceptions upon demonstration that the use supports the non-urban economy of that area or is required by residents of the immediate area.
- LU-9M. Building, zoning and housing codes will be vigorously enforced in all areas of Miami-Dade County.
- LU-9N. Upon completion and adoption of the South Miami-Dade Watershed Study, the County shall review the “smart growth” initiatives that are recommended in the Study to determine feasibility on appropriateness of implementing these initiatives throughout the County. If appropriate “smart growth” initiatives are identified, the County shall prepare specific amendments to the CDMP, land development regulations, and other appropriate policies and programs to implement these initiatives in order to: achieve greater efficiency in the utilization of land; reduce public sector costs resulting from inefficient development patterns; protect and preserve environmental, agricultural, water and open land resources, and; maintain and improve the quality of life of existing and future residents, businesses and visitors.
- LU-9O. Miami-Dade County shall by 2007 review and revise its development regulations to provide a density bonus for good urban design in the zoning districts that fall within the Medium-High Density range of 25 to 60 dwelling

units per gross acre. These development regulations shall address such urban design concerns as identifying civic areas, incorporating any historic theme, defining open space and streets, and providing a pedestrian-friendly environment along roadways.

- LU-9P. Miami-Dade County shall revise land development regulations to allow live-work units and structures in urban centers and all land use categories that permit the mixture of residential and non-residential uses. Live-work refers to one or more individuals living in the same building where they earn their livelihood usually in professional, artisanal or light industrial activities. The quiet enjoyment expectations of the residential neighbors take precedence over the work needs in a live-work unit or building. Toward this end, the occupational use of the unit shall not include non-resident employees or walk-in trade. No outdoor activity; noise, vibration, odor, electric interference or other effect of the occupation shall be detectable outside the work-live unit. The regulations should provide for disclosure of neighboring industrial and commercial activities to prospective residential tenants and purchasers.
- LU-9Q. Miami-Dade County shall revise land development regulations to allow work-live units in the Business and Office and Industrial and Office land use categories. The term work-live means that the needs of the work component takes precedence over the quiet expectations of residents, in that there may be noise, odors, or other impacts of the business, as well as employees, walk-in trade or sales. The predominant use of a work-live unit is industrial or commercial work activity and residential activity is secondary.
- LU-9R. The County shall coordinate with affected municipalities to prepare plans for areas designated as “urban centers” on the Land Use Plan Map, and other small area and neighborhood plans as needed and appropriate. These plans shall formulate a vision for the development and redevelopment of these areas in order to identify appropriate locations for higher density development, recommend area specific design requirements, and produce working and living environments that reflect community goals.
- LU-9S. During FY 2006 the Department of Planning and Zoning will revise Chap. 33, Miami-Dade County Code by creating a new zoning district that permits, under certain conditions, both single-family detached houses and townhouses together. One of the conditions is that affordable housing will be a significant portion of the development.
- LU-9T. Miami-Dade County shall by 2009 review, analyze, and revise as necessary the land use intensity standards established in the CDMP, particularly as they apply to non-residential development, to ensure consistency between intensity standards for Urban Centers and those that apply to the Urban Infill Area, the Urbanizing Area (the area between the Urban Infill Area and the Urban Development Boundary) and outside the Urban Development Boundary. The

review, analysis and revision shall also address the need for minimum standards as well as maximums. Following revision of these standards, consideration shall be given to countywide adoption of them and establishment of a joint/city review board to address instances where standards cannot reasonably be met.

- LU- 9U. The County shall consider provisions to allow horizontal mixed-use developments, defined as the horizontal integration of parcels with different primary uses within the same site or block, in appropriate future land use categories in the Urban Development Boundary.

Objective LU-10

Energy efficient development shall be accomplished through metropolitan land use patterns, site planning, landscaping, building design, and development of multimodal transportation systems.

Policies

- LU-10A. Miami-Dade County shall facilitate contiguous urban development, infill, redevelopment of substandard or underdeveloped urban areas, high intensity activity centers, mass transit supportive development, and mixed-use projects to promote energy conservation.
- LU-10B. Solar design guidelines for such items as street and passageway alignments, landscaping, setbacks, building orientation, and relationship to water bodies shall be developed by 2008, and utilized in site plan reviews by the Department of Planning and Zoning.
- LU-10C. Miami-Dade County shall encourage energy conservation by adopting Florida Green Building Coalition, US Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), or other acceptable commercial building standards for County-owned facilities.
- LU-10D. Miami-Dade County shall promote energy conservation by encouraging builders, remodelers, homeowners and homebuyers to implement Florida Green Building Coalition green home or other acceptable environmental standards and by encouraging site planners and land developers to implement Florida Green Building Coalition development standards.
- LU10-E. Miami-Dade County shall investigate incentives for developers and building owners to incorporate energy efficiency and other conservation measures that meet recognized green building standards into the design, construction or rehabilitation of their buildings.

Objective LU-11

Miami-Dade County shall take specific measures to promote redevelopment of dilapidated or abandoned buildings and the renovation, rehabilitation or adaptive reuse of existing structures.

Policies

- LU-11A. The Department of Planning and Zoning will develop and maintain an appropriate methodology (model), which contains relevant variables and has been validated with respect to accuracy for indicating sites which have a high potential for redevelopment. The results forthcoming from applications of this model will be regularly reported and disseminated to the building and development industry.
- LU-11B. The Department of Planning and Zoning during FY 2007 will prepare a proposal for the establishment of a taskforce or study group, charged with the formulation of a comprehensive redevelopment program. The proposal shall set forth the purpose of the group, the tasks to be carried out, the appropriate membership, and a schedule for completion.
- LU-11C. Miami-Dade County shall continue to utilize its Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) Program and federal programs such as the Community Development Block Grant and the HOME program to facilitate redevelopment of dilapidated or abandoned buildings and the renovation, rehabilitation or adaptive reuse of existing structures in eligible areas.

Objective LU-12

Miami-Dade County shall take specific measures to promote infill development that are located in the Urban Infill Area (UIA) as defined in PolicyTC-1B or in an built-up area with urban services that is situated in a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-eligible area, a Targeted Urban Area identified in the Urban Economic Revitalization Plan for Targeted Urban Areas, an Enterprise Zone established pursuant to state law or in the designated Empowerment Zone established pursuant to federal law.

Policies

- LU-12A. The Department of Planning and Zoning will utilize its Geographic Information System (GIS) Land Use File to identify vacant or underutilized sites, which might be suitable for infill housing. An infrastructure assessment will also be carried out and the results forthcoming from this process will be regularly reported and disseminated to the building and development industry.

- LU-12B. Miami-Dade County shall identify and consider for adoption a package of financial and regulatory incentives for new development on vacant properties in the UIA.
- LU-12C. Miami-Dade County shall evaluate the need to designate an Urban Infill Development Area (UIDA) in the CDMP and if needed develop policies specifying that this area shall receive priority for future public and private investments in infrastructure, services, development and compatible redevelopment.
- LU-12D. The County shall consider developing strategies that promote infill development in specific areas.

Interpretation of The Land Use Plan Map: Policy of the Land Use Element

This text describes each land use category shown on the Land Use Plan (LUP) map, and explains how each category and the Map are to be interpreted and used. Adherence to the LUP map and this text is a principal, but not the sole, vehicle through which many of the goals, objectives and policies of all elements of the CDMP are implemented. The LUP map illustrates where development of various types and densities, including agriculture, is encouraged, and areas where natural resource-based development and environmental protection are encouraged.

The LUP map provides six Residential Communities categories organized by gross density ranges. The non-residential land use categories, notably industrial, office, business, institutional, public facilities and transportation terminals, are organized by the types of predominant uses allowed or encouraged on land so designated, and relative intensities of development authorized in these categories are expressed as allowable land uses, as contrasted with land uses allowed in other LUP map categories. The specific intensity of development which may be approved on a particular parcel designated in a non-residential category on the LUP map will be dependent on the particular land use, design, urban service, environmental, and social conditions on and around the subject parcel at the time of approval including consideration of applicable CDMP goals, objectives and policies, including provisions of this text chapter, and provisions of applicable land development regulations which serve to implement the comprehensive plan. At a maximum, unless otherwise provided in this Plan, as provided for example for Urban Centers, the following shall be the maximum intensities at which land designated on the LUP map in one or more non-residential categories may be developed. Actual intensities approvable on a given site may be significantly lower than the maximum where necessary to conform with an overriding Plan policy, or to ensure compatibility of the development with its surroundings. Moreover, notwithstanding adoption of these intensity ceilings in the CDMP, estimations of prospective urban service demands or impacts of proposed developments will be based on the actual approved uses and/or intensity of a particular development when applicable, and for purposes of long-range areawide service facility planning purposes, such estimations may be

based on averages or trends of development types and intensities in localized areas when consistent with sound service/facility planning practice. The following allowable maximum intensities are expressed as the floor area ratio (FAR) of building square footage (not counting parking structures) divided by the net lot area of the development parcel.

Maximum Allowable Non-Residential Development Intensity	
Inside the UIA	2.0 FAR
Urbanizing Area, UIA to UDB	1.25 FAR
Outside UDB	0.5 FAR
[See Also Urban Centers]	

Residential Communities

The areas designated Residential Communities permit housing types ranging from detached single-family to attached multifamily buildings, as well as different constructions systems. Also permitted in residential Communities are neighborhood and community services including schools, parks, houses of worship, day care centers, group housing facilities, and utility facilities only when consistent with other goals, objectives and policies of this Plan and compatible with the neighborhood. The character of the “neighborhood” reflects the intensity and design of developments mix of land uses, and their relationship.

Guidelines for Urban Form. The following guidelines establish a generalized pattern for location of different uses, their intensity and density, and the interconnecting network of vehicular and pedestrian movement. The general pattern of land use in residential communities should conform to the following guidelines to the maximum extent consistent with the land use patters and densities authorized and encouraged by the Land Use Plan (LUP) map, and future amendments to the LUP map should endeavor to promote this localized form within the metropolitan pattern of urban centers and transit corridors. Exceptions may occur (a) for Developments of Regional Impact and Development of County Impact or (b) to conform the density, intensity, use, building, envelope, traffic generation and demand on services and infrastructure of a proposed new use to such contextual elements as the general pattern of use, intensity and infrastructure which exists in an established neighborhood. The general pattern promoted by these guidelines is schematically illustrated in Figure 2.

1. The section line roads should form the physical boundaries of neighborhoods.
2. The section line, half section line, and quarter-section line road system should form a continuous network, interrupted only when it would destroy the integrity of a neighborhood or development, or when there is a significant physical impediment. Pedestrian and vehicular traffic networks should serve as physical links between neighborhoods, with multiple points of access between neighborhoods.

3. Within a section, a variety of residential types and densities are encouraged, with higher densities being located at the periphery, and lower densities in the interior.
4. Intersections of section line roads shall serve as focal points of activity, hereafter referred to as activity nodes. Activity nodes shall be occupied by any nonresidential components of the neighborhood including public and semi-public uses. When commercial uses are warranted, they should be located within these activity nodes. In addition, of the various residential densities, which may be approved in a section through density averaging or on an individual site basis, the higher density residential uses should be located at or near the activity nodes.
5. Areas abutting and adjacent to activity nodes should serve as transition areas suitable for eligible higher residential densities, public and semi-public uses including day care and congregate living uses.
6. Areas located along section line roads between transition areas are also authorized for eligible higher residential densities, public and semi-public uses. When section line roads are served by adequate mass transit, these areas are more suitable for office uses than such properties not served by adequate transit.
7. Sites located near the center of the section at or near the intersection of half-section roads may be utilized for neighborhood-serving community facilities such as elementary schools, day care, recreational uses, and open spaces.
8. Pedestrian circulation shall be provided between activity nodes, all public places, and all subdivisions through connectivity of section, half-section and local roadways constructed with sidewalks and supplemented by pedestrian paths.
9. Along arterials, Major and high-speed roadways, pedestrian circulation should be accommodated by sheltering sidewalks from passing traffic by providing landscaping and trees at the street edge. In commercial areas, pedestrian access should be further accommodated by pedestrian pathways from the neighborhood to the business entrances as convenient as those from parking lots, and by providing awnings, overhangs or porticos for protection from the sun and weather.
10. The walling off of neighborhoods from arterial roadways should be avoided by alternatives such as placement of other compatible uses being along the periphery of suburban neighborhoods. These uses include public and semi-public uses, higher density residential building types, and office uses, where any of such uses are otherwise permitted by this category and justified. If lower density residential uses are to be located on an arterial, the building lots should be provided with ample setbacks, side yards and block ends should face the arterial, frontage roads may be utilized, or landscaping should be used in lieu of continuous walls.

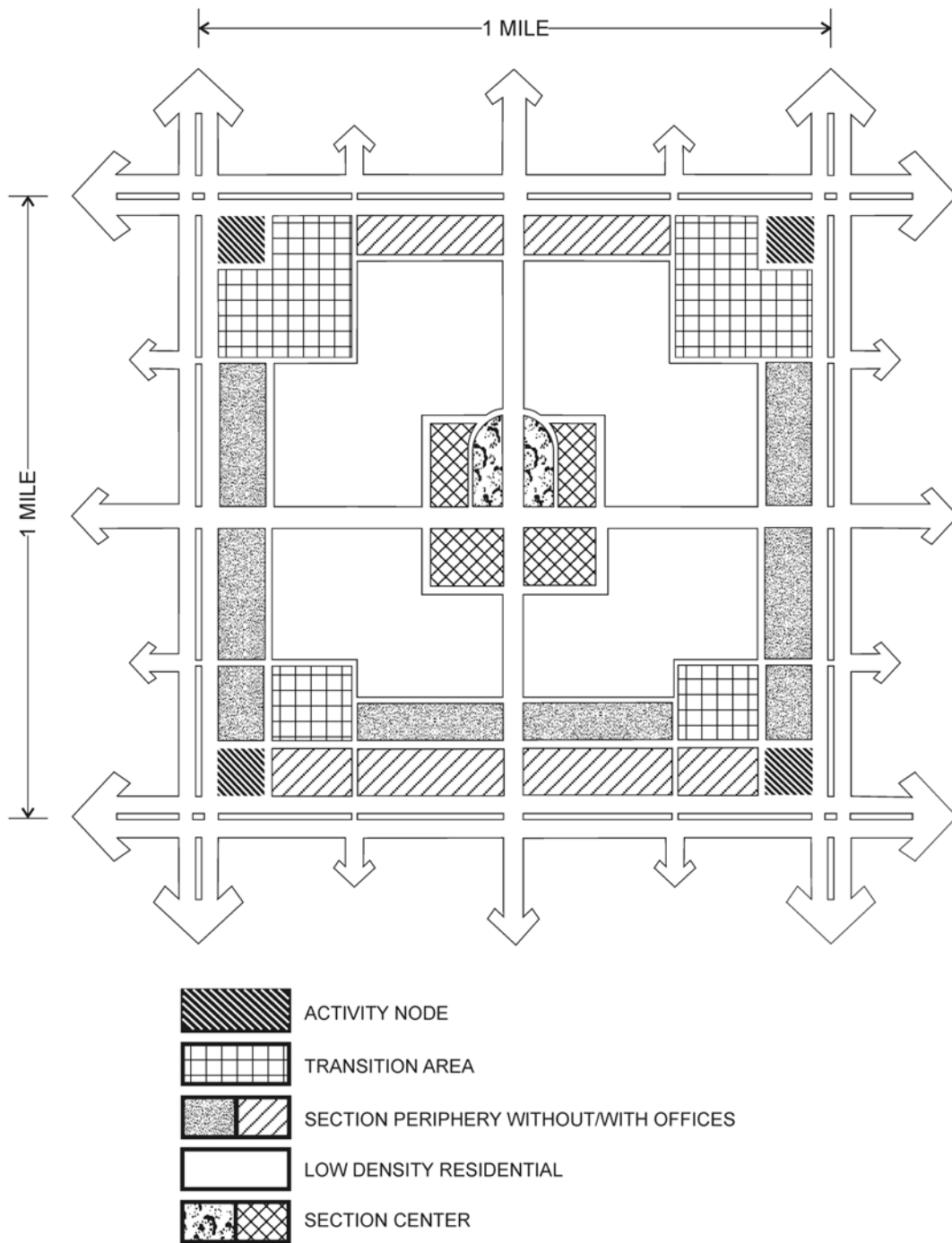


Figure 2
**GENERALIZED NEIGHBORHOOD
 DEVELOPMENT PATTERN**

DEPARTMENT OF
 PLANNING AND ZONING

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11. In planning and designing new residential developments, the frontages of public canals should be designed to remain open and accessible to neighborhood residents by such measures as the provision of adjoining frontage streets, and the avoidance of platting new contiguous building lots which would back up to the canal rights of way and prevent access. Similarly, new developments should be designed so that at least a portion of the shoreline of private water bodies will remain visible and accessible to neighborhood residents.

Gross Residential Density. The basic unit of measurement of residential density is "dwelling units per gross residential acre." Among the land uses that may be included in the "gross residential acreage" when computing the number of dwelling units permitted per gross acre in a residential communities area are the following: housing; streets; public schools; local public parks; fire stations; police stations; private recreational open spaces that are protected in perpetuity by covenant; public or semipublic utility sites, easements or rights-of-way donated at the time of development approval; and nature preserves and water bodies created as open-space amenities during project development or credited for density purposes during previous development approval, or inland waters¹ wholly owned by the applicant. The sites of these nonresidential uses may be included in the gross residential acreage only if they are under the same ownership or are multiple ownerships that are legally unified (legally unified development) as the site for which gross density is being determined. Among the uses not considered to be part of the "residential" area when computing the number of units permitted are industrial, commercial and office sites; communication facility sites; utility sites; easements and rights-of-way unless expressly permitted elsewhere in this section; expressways; non-local parks and nature preserves; universities, colleges and other institutional use; any land that has been credited for other development; previously dedicated road rights-of-way; and any already-developed parcels whether underdeveloped or not. Hotels and motels may be approved in certain areas designated as Residential Communities only as provided in the following paragraphs. Where approved in Residential Communities, each hotel or motel unit shall count as two thirds (2/3) of a dwelling unit when calculating gross density. (Motels and hotels that are located in areas designated Business and Office or Industrial and Office on the LUP map are considered to be commercial uses and, therefore, their units are not considered in determining the number of residential units permitted in an area). In contrast, net density, is the number of housing units per acre of land that is used exclusively for residential units. For example, a ten-acre parcel of land, half of which is devoted to 30 residential units and half to a park, would have residential development at a NET density 6 units per acre and a GROSS density of 3 units per acre. gross density is used for long-range areawide comprehensive planning because it provides flexibility for design and development of varied unit types, while Net density, typically used in zoning and design regulations, provides greater control over physical characteristics of development such as building massing and height.

¹ Inland water means all freshwater as defined in Chapter 24 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, and any coastal waters as defined in Chapter 24 having no direct physical connection to Biscayne Bay or to a coastal tributary thereof, except as said connection may occur through ground strata.

The Land Use Plan map includes six residential density categories, each of which is defined in terms of its minimum and maximum allowable gross residential density. Development at a lower than maximum density may be required where conditions warrant. For example, in instances where a large portion of the "gross residential acreage" is not part of the "net" residential building area, the necessity to limit the height and scale of the buildings to that compatible with the surrounding area may limit the gross density. Severable Use Rights (SURs) or Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) may be transferred to parcels within the designated receiving area. When Severable Use Rights or Transfer of Development Rights are utilized on residentially designated parcels, development will be allowed to exceed the maximum limits designated for the site or affected portions of it; however, this provision does not authorize the granting of a zoning district that, without use of SURs or TDRs, would exceed the Plan density limit. When an inclusionary zoning program required by Policy HO-3F is adopted to promote work force housing, development will be allowed to exceed, by up to 25%, the maximum limits designated for the site or affected portions of it; however, this provision does not authorize the granting of a zoning district or zoning approval that, without the use of the inclusionary zoning program, would exceed the plan density limit.

The Board of County Commissioners, or the appropriate Community Zoning Appeals Board, may approve residential development at a density up to 17 percent above the maximums provided below where the developer is a not-for-profit housing provider and it is certified that no less than 30 percent of the units in the development, excepting accessory dwelling units, will be priced to be affordable to low and very-low income households. In order to efficiently use, and not prematurely deplete, the finite development capacity that exists inside the Plan's Urban Development Boundary (UDB), land should not be developed at densities lower than the minimum established for each category. Exceptions to the minimums may exist outside transportation or transit corridors where such an exception would serve the interest of compatibility or protect the public health, safety, or important resources. For purposes of this paragraph, transportation and transit corridors are land areas located within 660 feet of planned Major Roadways identified on the LUP map, and within one-quarter mile from existing rail transit stations, express busway stops, future transit corridors and planned transit centers identified in the CDMP.

Open space consisting of green spaces such as natural areas, gardens, greens, squares, and plazas; water bodies, and/or recreational facilities shall be provided for each townhouse or multi-family development. Where practical for the planning of new townhouse developments or multi-family developments, an open space network consisting of interconnected active (e.g. play areas, swimming pools and tennis courts) and passive areas shall be provided for. The passive portion of the open space shall include any on-site archaeological or historic sites, environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands and Natural Forest Communities, water bodies and the shoreline walkway for sites abutting Biscayne Bay or the Atlantic Ocean. The open space for a parcel should be connected to the open space network for the neighborhood, which is built by joining major public and private open spaces into a continuous system. When practical, the open space on a parcel shall be interconnected with adjacent public lands and the open space of adjacent residential parcels. To provide for the open space on a parcel, the clustering of residential structures on the property will be permitted. If a public park with existing recreational facilities or programmed facilities is located within a ¼ mile of a

residential parcel, recreational facilities need not be provided on-site. However, the open space requirement must be met, unless authorized after public hearing. The on-site open space shall be maintained by the property owner for rental apartments and by the homeowner association for ownership housing.

Estate Density. This density range is typically characterized by detached estates which utilize only a small portion of the total parcel. Clustering, and a variety of housing types may, however, be authorized. The residential densities allowed in this category shall range from a minimum of 1.0 to a maximum of 2.5 dwelling units per gross acre.

Low Density. The residential densities allowed in this category shall range from a minimum of 2.5 to a maximum of 6.0 dwelling units per gross acre. Residential densities of blocks abutting activity nodes as defined in the Guidelines for Urban Form, or of blocks abutting section line roads between nodes, shall be allowed a maximum residential density of 10.0 dwelling units per gross acre. To promote infill development, residential development exceeding the maximum density of 6.0 dwelling units per acre is permitted for substandard lots that were conveyed or platted prior to August 2nd, 1938. This density category is generally characterized by single family housing, e.g., single family detached, cluster, and townhouses. It could include low-rise apartments with extensive surrounding open space or a mixture of housing types provided that the maximum gross density is not exceeded.

Low-Medium Density. This category allows a range in density from a minimum of 6.0 to a maximum of 13 dwelling units per gross acre. The types of housing typically found in areas designated low-medium density include single-family homes, townhouses and low-rise apartments. Zero-lot-line single-family developments in this category shall not exceed a density of 7.0 dwelling units per gross acre.

Medium Density. This category allows densities from 13 to 25 dwelling units per gross acre. The type of housing structures typically permitted in this category include townhouses and low-rise and medium-rise apartments.

Medium-High Density. This category authorizes apartment buildings ranging from 25 to 60 dwelling units per gross acre. In this category, the height of buildings and, therefore, the attainment of densities approaching the maximum, depends to a great extent on the dimensions of the site, conditions such as location and availability of services, ability to provide sufficient off-street parking, and the compatibility with and impact of the development on surrounding areas. The provisions of the section below entitled “Density Increase with Urban Design” are not applicable to this density category. At such time as Miami-Dade County's land development regulations are amended pursuant to Policy LU-90, a density bonus can be added to each residential zoning district that falls within the Medium-High Density range of 25 to 60 dwelling units per gross acre. When land development regulations are amended, this density bonus may allow a maximum of 60 dwelling units per gross acre on properties that are designated Medium-High Density on the Land Use Plan map. These density bonuses shall not apply to existing or proposed developments with vehicular entrances that are controlled or have entry gates or existing or proposed developments with private streets.

High Density. This category permits from 60 to 125 dwelling units or more per gross acre. This density is found only in a few areas that are located within certain municipalities where land costs are very high and where services will be able to meet the demands.

Density Increase With Urban Design. Some parcels are designated on the LUP map both with a color designating the allowable residential density basis and one of two hatch patterns. The hatch pattern labeled on the LUP map legend as DI-1 (Density Increase 1) denotes that the parcel is eligible for approval of one density category higher than the residential density indicated by the underlying color code, and DI-2 denotes eligibility for approval of up to two density categories higher. A property shall be eligible for a D-1 designation only if the development containing the designated property utilizes sound urban design principles adopted by County ordinance pursuant to Land Use Policy LU-9K, or incorporated in the Urban Design Manual endorsed by Resolution R-1360-98, or addresses the urban design concerns listed in Policy LU-9K in another binding instrument approved by action of the Board of County Commissioners. A property shall be eligible for a D-2 designation only if it meets the above urban design principles, is located in a transit corridor and addresses in a development agreement or site plan the urban design concerns of identifying civic areas, defining open spaces and streets, incorporating any historic theme and providing a pedestrian-friendly environment along roadways. For purposes of this paragraph, transit corridors are land areas located within 660 feet of planned Major Roadways identified on the LUP map, and within one-quarter mile from existing rail transit stations, express busway stops, future transit corridors and planned transit centers identified in the CDMP. To provide a transition between the transit corridor and adjacent neighborhoods, the height of buildings along the edge of the corridor should taper for at least 20 horizontal feet to the height of the existing adjacent buildings outside the corridor. However, where the adjacent property is vacant, heights of buildings at the edge of the corridor may be based on adopted comprehensive plans and the zoning of the surrounding area. Existing or proposed developments with vehicular entrances that are controlled or have entry gates with private streets are not eligible for a density increase designation of D1-1 or D1-2. If the referenced urban design principles are not employed, the allowable density shall be limited to that authorized only by the underlying color code.



(D1-1) One Density Increase With Urban Design



(D1-2) Two Density Increase With Urban Design

Density Averaging. The land use density ceiling designated on the LUP map will apply to every parcel of land. However, in certain instances, the averaging of density may be authorized among different parcels. Specific provisions for this to occur are specified below. All of the following allowances are limited to lands located within the Urban Development Boundary which are designated for urban uses.

Where groups of parcels under a single ownership or multiple ownerships that are legally unified (hereinafter legally unified development) are located within a unit area bounded by Major or Minor Roadways as indicated on the Land Use Plan map, portions of the unified development may be developed at densities higher than that shown on the LUP map provided

that other portions are developed at correspondingly lower densities so that the average density of the entire development does not exceed the maximum gross density limits shown on the LUP map. Where a parcel or group of contiguous parcels under a single ownership or legally unified development has two different LUP map residential designations, the number of units permitted under one designation may be averaged with the number of units permitted under the other and developed at varying densities providing that the total number of units built on such property does not exceed the total number permitted under the two designations. Further, where 50 percent or more of the boundary of a parcel or group of contiguous parcels, not exceeding 20 acres in size, adjoins land that is developed or zoned for densities that are higher than those which are shown on the LUP map, such property may be zoned for a density higher than that shown on the LUP map but not higher than the highest density which is permitted by zoning on the adjoining properties. Density may be transferred across a Major or Minor roadway to an adjacent and legally unified parcel or portion thereof contiguous to the Roadway provided, further, that the site receiving the increased density shall be developed at a density no greater than the higher of adjoining or adjacent existing residential development or zoning, or if the adjoining land is undeveloped and not zoned for urban use, one density category higher than the LUP map designation of the parcel. The above provisions, however, are all conditioned upon a determination being made that the requested density and housing types are compatible with the surrounding development and would not create a significant negative impact on services within the area.

The land use and residential density patterns indicated for municipalities represent the development basis that Miami-Dade County will use to plan and program public facilities and services that are its responsibility. The patterns of land use and densities indicated along municipal boundaries also seek to minimize conflicts between different jurisdictions. Because municipal planning agencies possess greater familiarity and the authority to plan land use of their jurisdiction, adopted municipal comprehensive plans may average densities among different density categories indicated on the LUP map, within unit areas bounded by Major and Minor Roadways indicated on the Land Use Plan map. However, the total potential number of dwelling units and acreage of other land uses should not be changed from the total indicated by the County plan for the unit area bounded by these roadways. Moreover, maintenance of compatible uses and housing types at local government jurisdictional boundaries is particularly important.

Housing Variety. Residential communities having a variety of housing types, such as standard single-family detached homes, townhouse, other single-family attached homes, and multi-family units, are encouraged by this plan. Toward this end, all new residential developments should include housing types which will contribute to the diversity of housing types in the immediate area, and in all instances residential developments exceeding 40 acres in size shall contain more than one of the foregoing housing types. It is especially important to mix townhouses with single-family detached and the former with multi-family units. Multi-family buildings should offer a variety of sizes ranging from efficiency units through two and three bedroom apartments.

Accessory Dwelling Units. Accessory dwelling units ranging from 400 to 800 square feet of habitable area are authorized on single-family lots with a minimum area of 7,500 square feet

that are located inside the Urban Development Boundary. The appearance of the structure(s) containing the primary and accessory units shall maintain an appearance consistent with the character of the neighborhood. Accessory dwelling units provided in accordance with this section shall not be counted toward the LUP map residential density maximum which governs the subject property.

Uses and Zoning Not Specifically Depicted. As provided in the previous paragraphs, mixing of different housing types and densities is allowed within certain unit areas. The average gross residential densities depicted on the Land Use Plan map reflect such averaging. They also reflect certain non-residential use sites previously credited in accordance with the section titled "Gross Residential Density" and its predecessor standard.

Existing lawful residential and non-residential uses and zoning are not specifically depicted on the LUP map. They are however reflected in the average Plan density depicted. All such lawful uses and zoning are deemed to be consistent with this Plan as provided in the section of this chapter titled "Concepts and Limitations of the Land Use Plan Map." The limitations referenced in this paragraph pertain to existing zoning and uses. All approval of new zoning must be consistent with the provisions of the specific category in which the subject parcel exists, including the provisions for density averaging and definition of gross density.

Other Potential Uses in Residential Communities. The uses generally permitted in Residential Communities are listed above under the residential, and gross residential density headings. The establishment of other new uses in residential areas is not allowed; however, under limited circumstances and conditions, some other land uses may be permitted to locate in Residential Communities. These special use situations are described below. No "other new use" in a residential area as described in this section shall be deemed consistent with the CDMP where the use or zoning district has, or would have, an unfavorable effect on the surrounding area: by causing an undue burden on transportation facilities including roadways and mass transit or other utilities and services including water, sewer, drainage, fire, rescue, police and schools; by providing inadequate off-street parking, service or loading areas; by maintaining operating hours, outdoor lighting or signage out of character with the neighborhood; by creating traffic, noise, odor, dust or glare out of character with the neighborhood; by posing a threat to the natural environment including air, water and living resources; or where the character of the buildings, including height, bulk, scale, floor area ratio or design would detrimentally impact the surrounding area.

Congregate Living Facilities, Group Homes, Foster Homes, Nursing Homes, and Day Care Facilities. "Congregate residential uses" and nursing homes may be permitted at suitable locations in Residential Communities in keeping with the following density allowance: Each 2.5 occupants shall be considered to be one dwelling unit, and the maximum number of dwelling units allowed shall be no greater than the number allowed in the next higher residential density category than that for which the site is designated. For example, a ten-acre site located in an area designated for six dwelling units per gross acre may be permitted up to 13 units per gross acre or in this instance, up to 130 units. Assuming 2.5 occupants per unit, up to 325 persons could occupy the site. The intensity of use that may be approved for "daytime service uses" such as day care facilities shall be limited as necessary to be

compatible with adjacent uses and to comply with water supply and sewage regulations contained in Chapter 24 of the Miami-Dade County Code.

If located in Estate, Low or Low-Medium Density neighborhoods, congregate residential uses, and daytime service uses such as day care centers, should locate only in activity nodes, transition areas and section centers as indicated in the Guidelines for Urban Form, or on sites that are transitional to higher density or higher intensity land uses, to public uses or to other areas of high activity or accessibility. In particular, nursing homes are best located on a Major or Minor Roadway and in, or adjacent to commercial or institutional areas, higher density areas or other situations transitional from lower density residential areas.

Public Facilities. Large-scale public facilities, institutional and communications uses, and utilities are specifically identified in the Institutions, Utilities, and Communications category on the Plan map. Small-scale uses and the facilities intended to serve the immediate needs of the residential community may be permitted on compatible sites in Residential Communities subject to adequate design and buffering. These facilities include fire stations, electrical substations and distribution facilities, cell antenna, natural gas, telephone, fiber optic, cable, water and sewer facilities. They are preferably located in activity nodes, transition areas, and along major thoroughfares, and also at section centers if designed to serve the immediate neighborhood. Larger uses and facilities which are designed to serve more than a local area are preferably located in or adjacent to Industrial and Office, or Business and Office areas. Cemeteries may also be permitted in Residential Communities where direct access to a Major or Minor Roadway is provided or where traffic would not disrupt adjacent residential areas.

Commercial Uses (in Residential Communities). Commercial uses are prohibited in areas designated as Residential Communities except as specifically provided in this chapter; ample sites for business and office uses are provided in the Business and Office, Industrial and Office, and Office/Residential Categories on the Land Use Plan map. However, under the following specific circumstances limited commercial uses may be authorized in areas designated as Residential Communities.

Office uses smaller than five acres in size may be approved in areas designated as Residential Communities where other office, business or industrial use(s) which are not inconsistent with this plan already lawfully exist on the same block face. However, where such an office, business, or industrial use exists only on a corner lot of a subject block face or block end, approval of office use elsewhere on the block is limited to the one block face or block end which is the more heavily trafficked side of the referenced corner lot. Office uses may be approved on such sites only if consistent with the objectives and policies of the CDMP and the use or zoning district would not have an unfavorable effect on the surrounding area: by causing an undue burden on transportation facilities including roadways and mass transit or other utilities and services including water, sewer, drainage, fire, rescue, police and schools; by providing inadequate off-street parking, service or loading areas; by maintaining operating hours, outdoor lighting or signage out of character with the neighborhood; by creating traffic, noise, odor, dust or glare out of character with the neighborhood; by posing a threat to the natural environment including air, water and living resources; or where the character of the buildings, including height, bulk, scale, floor area ratio or design would be out of scale with

the character of the neighboring uses or would detrimentally impact the surrounding area. In applying this provision, the maximum limits of an eligible residentially designated block face along which office uses may be extended shall not extend beyond the first intersecting public or private street, whether existing, platted or projected to be necessary to provide access to other property, or beyond the first railroad right-of-way, utility transmission easement or right-of-way exceeding 60 feet in width, canal, lake, public school, church, park, golf course or major recreational facility.

In addition, office uses may be approved along the frontage of major roadways in residential community areas where residences have become less desirable due to inadequate setbacks from roadway traffic and noise, or due to a mixture of nonresidential uses or activities in the vicinity in accordance with the limitations set forth in this paragraph. These office uses may occur in combination with or independent of residential use. Such limited office uses may be approved on such sites in residential community areas only where: a) the residential lot fronts directly on a Major Roadway as designated on the Land Use Plan map (Frontage roads are not eligible for consideration); b) the lot or site size does not exceed one acre; and c) the residential area is not zoned, developed or designated on the Land Use Plan map for Estate Density Residential, nor does subject frontage face such an Estate Density area. Office use approvals, pursuant to this paragraph may only authorize: a) conversion of an existing residence into an office; b) addition of an office use to an existing residence; or, c) the construction of a new office building on lots which were finally platted prior to March 25, 1991 in a size one acre or smaller. Additionally, such office uses may be approved only if the scale and character of the prospective office use are compatible with the surrounding residential neighborhood and if the site has sufficient dimensions to permit adequate on-site parking and buffering of adjacent residences from the office. Other factors that will be considered in determining compatibility include, but are not limited to traffic, noise, lighting, shadows, access, signage, landscaping, and hours of operation. Signage shall be restricted both in size, style, and location to preclude a commercial appearance. Landscaping and buffering of adjacent residences and rear properties will be required. Emphasis shall be placed on retention of the general architectural style of the area, where the area is sound and attractive. Development Orders authorizing the conversion of existing homes into offices, the addition of offices to existing residences or the construction of new buildings encompassing office uses pursuant to this paragraph may be approved only where compatible and where the intensity and character of the new building including gross floor area, lot coverage and height, will be consistent with the homes which exist or which could be built on the immediately adjacent parcels.

Hotels and Motels shall not be approved in the Estate or Low Density residential categories. They may, however, be approved in the Low-Medium, Medium, Medium-High or High Density residential categories if the site on which the hotel or motel is located has frontage on a Major roadway as identified on the LUP map and where compatible with adjacent uses. Factors considered in determining compatibility include, but are not limited to traffic, noise, lighting, shadows, on-site parking, landscaping and buffering. In addition, hotel-motel uses may be approved where they are incidental to, and integrated with a recreational facility internal to a planned residential development. Hotel-motel uses may also be approved as an oceanfront resort or as part of an oceanfront resort.

Convenience retail facilities may be permitted in multifamily developments containing 300 or more units, as an accessory use for the convenience of the development's residents. Such facilities shall be restricted in size to relate solely to the needs of the development's residents and shall be limited to convenience commercial and personal service uses such as restaurants, food and drugstores, barbershop and dry cleaning service pick up/drop off. Wherever possible, such uses should be located in the principal structure or in a community service structure. Where this ancillary use must be self standing, its site shall be no larger than one-half acre per 300 dwelling units. These uses shall not be visible from sites outside the subject development or have direct access from public roads, and shall not utilize signage to attract persons from outside the development. In addition, the location of any such convenience facilities shall be designed as an integral part of the total development, and will be subject to site plan approval.

Marina facilities and recreation facility clubhouses, private and semiprivate, (including commercial uses which are incidental and complementary to, and usually associated with, clubhouses, such as pro-shops, snack bars, restaurants, and the sale of alcoholic beverages) within, and primarily designed, sized and scaled to serve the immediate needs of a residential development may also be permitted in the residential classifications if compatible with the neighborhood.

Neighborhood Corner Store development may also be considered for approval in Residential Community-designated areas except Estate-designated areas. Up to one acre of neighborhood corner store development may be considered for approval on land designated as Residential Communities for each 600 dwelling units in the development. The siting of Neighborhood Corner Store developments on land designated residential communities should be as consistent as possible with the Guidelines for Urban Form presented on the preceding pages.

Home Occupations. Home occupations may be approved as a subordinate, accessory, conditional use in single-family residences in accordance with the following conditions: The occupational use must be incidental and secondary to the primary use as a residence; all structures must maintain a residential appearance; no signs or displays are allowed in windows or outdoors; all occupational materials and activity must occur indoors; employment shall be limited solely to residents who live on the premises; no products or goods in trade may be sold from stock on the premises; no activities will be allowed which cause noise, vibration, heat, light, odor, or electrical interference detectable outside the residence; uses will be restricted to maintain residential traffic characteristics; and periodic inspections, annual operating permits, and business licenses shall be required to protect the safety and tranquility of the residential neighborhood.

Hospitals in Residential Communities. New hospitals may not be permitted in Residential Communities except that they may be approved to locate in the Medium-High and High Density categories. They should be located in areas designated Institutional, Business and Office or Industrial and Office. However, existing hospitals and associated medical buildings which are not specifically depicted on the LUP map may be approved for addition or expansion in all density categories where compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Thematic Resource District (TRD). Pursuant to Land Use Policy LU-6L, Thematic Resource Districts (TRDs) may be established in areas designated as Residential Communities on the LUP map to provide protection and replication of community historical, architectural, design or other physical attributes that constitute aesthetic, cultural and economic assets of the community. TRD's established pursuant to Policy LU-6L may be established in Residential Community areas which allow residential use at a density up to one Land Use Plan map density category higher than the underlying LUP map designation, and compatible non-residential uses.

Traditional Neighborhood Developments (TNDs). Traditional neighborhood developments which incorporate a broad mixture of uses under specific design standards may also be approved in Residential Communities in the manner specifically authorized in this subsection. The purpose of the traditional neighborhood development is to enable the creation of new communities that offer social and architectural quality, characteristic of early American town planning. Many of these early models, developed prior to 1940, offer insight into the design of coherently planned communities. The concept is patterned after those inherent in these earlier developments and provides a design clarity through a hierarchy of streets, a focus towards pedestrian activity, low scale community support activities and the use of civic symbols of community buildings and open squares as the focal point of the neighborhood. The objectives of a traditional neighborhood development shall include the following:

- to provide a physical environment and to foster a social environment that allows inhabitants to satisfy such basic psychological needs as security, community identity and self-esteem;
- to provide significant employment within the neighborhood, allowing both small and large scale businesses. This mixing of jobs and housing reduces traffic impacts and adds to the liveliness and security of the neighborhood;
- to provide a full range of housing types, from detached single family houses to apartments above shops, fostering social and cultural integration;
- to provide neighborhood civic buildings, squares and parks to reinforce community identity;
- to reduce dependence on the automobile by encouraging foot and bicycle traffic, by providing consumer services, jobs, recreation, and cultural opportunities within walking and cycling distance, and by general compactness of community layout;
- to create streets that accommodate pedestrians as well as automobiles;
- to provide guidelines for building placement and street design that protect the neighborhood environment while allowing latitude for individual choices.

Within areas designated on the LUP map as Residential Communities, a mixed use Traditional Neighborhood Development permitting business, office, industrial, artisanal, live-work, home occupations and other uses authorized by this subsection may be approved providing that the following criteria are met:

1. The minimum contiguous land area is 40 acres and is not located within the Estate Density category; and
2. The site is under single-ownership at the time the master development plan or equivalent is approved; and
3. Residential density does not exceed the density depicted on the Land Use Plan Map, except that a maximum density of ten dwelling units per acre may be approved in the Low Density category; and
4. Public open spaces such as squares or parks comprise a minimum of five acres or five percent of the developed area, whichever is greater; and
5. Civic uses, such as meeting halls, schools, day care centers and cultural facilities comprise a minimum of two percent of the developed area; and
6. Business, office, and industrial uses, that are separate from residential mixed uses do not exceed seven percent of the gross land area; and
7. Where the TND borders or is adjacent to land that is designated Estate, Low Density or Low-Medium Density Residential and the land so designated is used for residences or is vacant, the separate business, office and industrial uses identified in item No. 6 above, and those business, office and industrial uses mixed with other uses shall not be permitted within 175 feet of the TND boundary and all non-residential components of such uses shall be acoustically and visually screened from said bordering or adjacent land; and when a TND borders land designated Agriculture or Open Land, said business, office or industrial uses shall not be permitted within 330 feet of said TND boundary; and
8. Residential areas, and residential uses mixed with shop-front, artisanal home occupation uses comprise the remainder of the developed area; and
9. In calculating gross residential density, uses listed in item No. 6 shall be excluded, however, all other uses may be used to determine the maximum permitted density.

Industrial and Office

Manufacturing operations, maintenance and repair facilities, warehouses, mini-warehouses, office buildings, wholesale showrooms, distribution centers, and similar uses are permitted in areas designated as "Industrial and Office" on the LUP map. Also included are construction and utility-equipment maintenance yards, utility plants, public facilities, hospitals and medical buildings. The full range of telecommunication facilities, including switching and transmission facilities, satellite telecommunications facilities, microwave towers, radar stations and cell towers is also allowed. Very limited commercial uses to serve the firms and workers in the industrial and office area are allowed dispersed as small business districts and centers throughout the industrial areas. Hotels and motels are also authorized. Freestanding retail and personal service uses and shopping centers larger than 10 acres in size are prohibited

in these areas because they would deplete the industrial land supply and they are better located in commercially designated areas and in closer proximity to residential areas. Freestanding retail and personal service uses and shops that are approved in Industrial and Office areas should front on major access roads, particularly near major intersections. In addition, uncommon commercial uses such as amusement uses, and others with unusual siting requirements may also be considered at appropriate locations. Quarrying activities and ancillary uses may also be approved in areas designated Industrial and Office where compatible with the surrounding area and environment. The specific range and intensity of uses appropriate in a particular Industrial and Office area vary by location as a function of the availability of public services and access and, among other factors, compatibility with neighboring development. Through the zoning review process, use of particular sites or areas may be limited to something less than the maximum allowed in this category. Moreover, special limitations may be imposed where necessary to protect environmental resources.

If the land is the subject of an application for rezoning, zoning approval or a plan amendment and is located in an MSA with less than a 15-year supply of industrial land, in order to receive approval for a non-industrial use, the applicant must demonstrate that such use will not have a significant adverse impact on future industrial development.

In general, the typical residential development is incompatible with major industrial concentrations and shall not occur in areas designated as “Industrial and Office” on the LUP map to avoid use conflicts and for health and safety reasons. Exceptions may be granted for the following: (1) the development of live-work or work-live buildings or the adaptive reuse of existing structures for these purposes in areas of light industrial uses such as office, wholesale, distribution and the assembling of pre-manufactured parts; (2) the development of a TND as provided herein; and (3) the residential development of a portion of an industrially designated area where the portion is, a) 10 acres or smaller and is bounded on two or more sides by existing residential development or zoning, or is b) the perimeter of a Plan-designated industrial area which perimeter does not exceed 150 feet; and c) the subject portion of the industrially designated site immediately adjoins a currently developed or platted residential area and the Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning determines that the inclusion of a residential component in the Industrially designated area, designed to provide compatible transition along the boundary, is the best means of maintaining the quality of the adjoining residential area. Notwithstanding the foregoing applications for residential zoning that were properly filed prior to August 25, 2000, can be considered where adjoining land is residentially zoned, designated or developed. Residential developments in this land use category may participate in the inclusionary zoning program. The properties utilized for residential development will be eligible within the limits provided in this paragraph for the density allowances of the inclusionary zoning program in the Residential Communities section.

TNDs may be permitted in Industrial and Office areas where: 1) compatible with nearby development and with the objectives and policies of this Plan, 2) necessary services exist or will be provided by the developer, and 3) adjacent to land designated Residential Communities on the LUP map (including across an abutting major or minor roadway) along 30 percent or more of the total perimeter of the TND, provided that land designated

Residential Communities exists along at least some portion of the two or more sides. (Multiple sides created by an out parcel shall count as one side only). TND located within Industrial and Office areas shall allocated to Workshop Uses a minimum of 15 percent and a maximum of 30 percent of the gross built up area planned for development within a TND, and shall have a residential density no greater than the average of the adjacent Residential Communities designations or ten units per acre, whichever is higher. Workshops Uses shall be oriented to adjacent non-residential areas, while the residential uses shall be oriented to the adjacent Residential Communities designations. All criteria for TNDs enumerated in the Residential Communities section of this Chapter, other than the provisions governing percent of built per area which may be devoted to workshop uses addressed herein and the maximum permitted residential density, shall govern the development of TNDs in areas designated Industrial and Office.

Restricted Industrial and Office. Industrial and Office areas designated as "Restricted" are areas where the range of uses and design of facilities are governed by special groundwater protection regulations. This category primarily affects "wellfield protection areas" designated in the Miami-Dade County Code (Chapter 24, Code of Miami-Dade County). The boundaries of the "Restricted" areas shall be periodically reviewed and amended as necessary to maintain consistency with wellfield protection area boundaries provided by Chapter 24, Code of Miami-Dade County. Development in Restricted Industrial and Office areas should generally be limited to office uses, but certain business, warehousing and manufacturing uses may be permitted, provided that the use employs best management practices, and the use does not involve the on-site use, handling, storage, manufacture or disposal of hazardous materials or waste as defined in Chapter 24 of the County Code. Provisions of the "Industrial and Office" category which allow and limit residential and business uses, TNDs and hotels also apply to the Restricted category. Quarrying and environmentally compatible ancillary uses may also be approved in these areas. The inclusion of this Restricted category on the LUP map does not preclude the application of these or similar use limitations to other land contained in the Industrial and Office or any other land use category where necessary to protect groundwater resources.

Uses and Zoning Not Specifically Depicted. Some existing uses and zoning are not specifically depicted on the LUP map. All existing lawful uses and zoning are deemed to be consistent with this Plan as provided in the section of this chapter titled "Concepts and Limitations of the Land Use Plan Map". The limitations referenced in this paragraph pertain to existing zoning districts and uses. All approval of new industrial locations must be consistent with the LUP map or the specific exceptions provided in the various LUP map categories, the objectives and policies of this Plan.

Business and Office

This category accommodates the full range of sales and service activities. Included are retail, wholesale, personal and professional services, call centers, commercial and professional offices, hotels, motels, hospitals, medical buildings, nursing homes (also allowed in the institutional category), entertainment and cultural facilities, amusements and commercial recreation establishments such as private commercial marinas. Also allowed are

telecommunication facilities such as cell towers and satellite telecommunication facilities (earth stations for satellite communication carriers, satellite terminal stations, communications telemetry facilities and satellite tracking stations). These uses may occur in self-contained centers, high-rise structures, campus parks, municipal central business districts or strips along highways. In reviewing zoning requests or site plans, the specific intensity and range of uses, and dimensions, configuration and design considered to be appropriate will depend on locational factors, particularly compatibility with both adjacent and adjoining uses, and availability of highway capacity, ease of access and availability of other public services and facilities. Uses should be limited when necessary to protect both adjacent and adjoining residential use from such impacts as noise or traffic, and in most wellfield protection areas uses are prohibited that involved the use, handling, storage, generation or disposal of hazardous material or waste, and may have limitations as to the maximum buildable area, as defined in Chapter 24 of the County Code. When the land development regulations are amended pursuant Policies LU-9P and LU-9Q, live-work and work-live developments shall be permitted on land designated as Business and Office, as transitional uses between commercial and residential areas.

Residential uses, and mixing of residential use with commercial, office and hotels are also permitted in Business and Office areas provided that the scale and intensity, including height and floor area ratio of the residential or mixed use development, is not out of character with that of adjacent or adjoining development and zoning, and it does not detrimentally impact, and it provides a sensitive well designed transition to any adjacent or adjoining residentially developed or designated areas of different development intensity. Where these conditions are met residential development may be authorized to occur in the Business and Office category at a density up to one density category higher than the LUP-designated density of the adjacent or adjoining residentially designated area on the same side of the abutting principal roadway, or up to the density of any such existing residential development, or zoning if the adjacent or adjoining land is undeveloped, whichever is higher. If there is no adjacent or adjoining residential use existing, zoned or designated on the same side of the roadway, the maximum allowable residential density will be that which exists or which this plan allows across the roadway. Where there is no residential use, zoning or designation on either side of the roadway, the intensity of residential development, including height, bulk and floor area ratio shall be no greater than that which would be permitted for an exclusively commercial use of the site. Where SURs or TDRs are transferred to Business-designated parcels which are zoned or to be used for residential development, or when a residential project utilizes the inclusionary zoning program the allowances of the Residential communities section may be used within the limits provided in this paragraph.

Strips and Nodes. The plan recognizes existing strip commercial development along many roadways. However, commercial development in newly developing areas is designated as nodes at major intersections. Allocation of commercial development rights among quadrants of such nodes will depend on locational factors, geographic constraints, ownership fragmentation, compatibility with adjacent uses and availability of highway capacity and other public services and facilities.

Ribbons or strips of commercial use along roadway frontages are identified along one or both block faces fronting certain roadways. Where only one block face is indicated, this specifically provides that only that block face is intended for commercial use and is not to suggest that the opposite face is also included. The lateral boundary of the ribbon indicates the extent to which business uses may be allowed to expand along the roadway frontage.

The depth of the ribbon for commercial development and other uses permitted under the Business and Office land use category is more generalized. In general, the depth should be limited to the norm for the strip, but may be approved at such other depth that will provide a logical transition to adjacent commercial and residential uses or accommodate vehicular parking to serve an adjacent use, provided that liberal permanent buffering is provided or other site planning or design features are used, to provide compatibility with any adjoining and adjacent residential uses that exist or are designated on the Land Use Plan map, in keeping with the Plan's policies. Extension of commercial strip depth beyond the mid-block to the frontage of an interior street does not necessarily authorize vehicular access on that interior street, and such access may be prohibited if it would be incompatible with neighboring development. Intervening areas between commercial ribbons along a highway face may be used only for the uses permitted in the designated land use category. Further lateral extension of the ribbon beyond that shown on the Plan map will require a Plan amendment.

Uses and Zoning Not Specifically Depicted. Some existing lawful uses and zoning are not specifically depicted on the LUP map. However, all such existing lawful uses and zoning are deemed to be consistent with this Plan as provided in the section of this chapter titled "Concepts and Limitations of the Land Use Plan Map." The limitations referenced in this paragraph pertain to existing zoning and uses. All approval of new commercial locations must be consistent with the LUP map or the specific exceptions provided in the various LUP map categories, and the objectives and policies of this Plan.

Office/Residential

Uses allowed in this category include both professional and clerical offices, hotels, motels, and residential uses. Office developments may range from small-scale professional office to large-scale office parks. Satellite telecommunication facilities that are ancillary uses to the businesses in a development are also allowed. A specific objective in designing developments to occur in this category is that the development should be compatible with any existing, or zoned, or Plan-designated adjoining or adjacent residential uses. The maximum scale and intensity, including height and floor area ratio of office, hotel and motel development in areas designated Office/Residential shall be based on such factors as site size, availability of services, accessibility, and the proximity and scale of adjoining or adjacent residential uses. Where the Office/Residential category is located between residential and business categories,

the more intensive activities to occur on the office site, including service locations and the points of ingress and egress, should be oriented toward the business side of the site, and the residential side of the site should be designed with sensitivity to the residential area and, where necessary, well buffered both visually and acoustically.

Residential uses are also allowed in the Office/Residential category. In these locations, residential density may be approved up to one density category higher than that allowed in the adjoining or adjacent residentially designated area on the same side of the abutting principal roadway, or up to the density of existing adjoining or adjacent residential development, or zoning if the adjacent or adjoining land is undeveloped whichever is higher. If there is no adjacent or adjoining residential development existing, zoned or designated on the same side of the abutting principal roadway, then the allowable maximum residential density shall be based on that which exists or which the plan allows across the roadway. Where there is no residential use, zoning or designation on either side of the roadway, the intensity of residential development, including height, bulk and floor area ratio shall be no greater than that which would be permitted for an exclusively office use of the site. When residential uses are mixed with office uses, the overall scale and intensity, including height and floor area ratio of the mixed-use development shall be no greater than that which would be approved if the parcel was developed in either office use only or residential use only, whichever is higher. Within the Office/Residential category, business uses ancillary and to serve the on-site use(s) may be integrated in an amount not to exceed 15 percent of the total floor area. However, the Office/Residential category does not authorize other business or commercial uses.

The plan recognizes existing strip office development along roadways. Ribbons or strips of office use along roadway frontages are identified along one or both block faces fronting certain roadways. Where only one block face is indicated, this specifically provides that only that block face is intended for office use and is not to suggest that the opposite face is also included. The lateral boundary of the ribbon indicates the extent to which office uses may be allowed to expand along the roadway frontage. The depth of the ribbon for office development and other uses permitted by the Office/Residential land use category is more generalized. In general, the depth should be limited to the norm for the strip, but may be approved at such other depth that will provide a logical transition to adjacent uses or accommodate vehicular parking to serve an adjacent use, provided that site planning or design features are used, to furnish compatibility with any adjoining and adjacent residential uses that exist or are designated on the Land Use Plan map, in keeping with the Plan's policies. Extension of the strip depth beyond the mid-block to the frontage of an interior street does not necessarily authorize vehicular access on that interior street, and such access may be prohibited if it would be incompatible with neighboring development. Intervening areas between ribbons along a highway face may be used only for the uses permitted in the designated land use category. Further lateral extension of the ribbon beyond that shown on the Plan map will require a Plan amendment.

As indicated in the section of this chapter titled "Concepts and Limitations of the Land Use Plan Map", some existing lawful uses and zoning are not specifically depicted on the LUP map. That text, titled Uses and Zoning Not Depicted, applies equally to office uses and zoning.

Mixed Use Development

Mixed-use development allows a mix of compatible uses in a high quality pedestrian-oriented street environment. This form of development includes permitted uses mixed within the same building (vertical) or in separate buildings on the same site or in the same block (horizontal). As stated in Policy LU-9U, the County will consider at a later time provisions for allowing horizontal mixed-use development in various land use categories. The section of this element, entitled “Urban Centers,” addresses mixed-use development occurring within designated urban centers. The purpose of this section is to address the mixed-use projects that are to be located outside of the designated urban centers.

Vertical mixed-use development is hereby defined as the vertical integration of primary uses, with business and office uses located on the ground floor and residential and/or office uses on the upper floors. These mixed-use projects shall contain both residential and non-residential components, such as live-work spaces, neighborhood and specialty retail, convenience services, entertainment, other businesses providing for day-to-day living needs, institutional and civic uses, and professional offices. The residential component must be at least 20 percent of the total floor area but no more than 75 percent of the total floor area. Hotels and apartment hotels, governmental offices, civic uses, and schools may be exempt from these mix requirements.

Vertical mixed-use development may be allowed within the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) in areas designated Residential Communities, with the exception of Estate Density and Low Density; Business and Office; and Office/Residential, provided that these areas are located in:

1. “Neighborhood activity nodes” of 40 gross acres which, as shown in Figure 2 of the Land Use Element, Generalized Neighborhood Development Pattern, are located at the intersections of section line roads; or
2. Corridors with a maximum depth of 660 feet that are located along ‘Major Roadways’ as identified on the adopted Land Use Plan map; or
3. Corridors designated as mixed-use corridors in an area plan that has been accepted by the Board of County Commissioners.

Appropriate design standards are essential to ensure that the uses permitted in mixed-use developments are compatible with each other and adjacent properties and contribute to the character of the street and the surrounding community. A specific objective in designing mixed-use developments is that the development should be compatible with any existing, or zoned, or Plan-designated adjoining or adjacent uses. The exact residential density that can be achieved on a particular property will depend upon the intensity permitted, the average size of the residential units, the residential percentage of the project and land development regulations concerning building envelopes, parking and open space. Intensities are generally measured as floor area ratios (FARs), which for a particular property is the square footage of the buildings (not counting parking structures or covered pedestrian walkways that are open to the street) divided by the net land area of the parcel. The maximum intensities and densities shall be the greater of those provided in the table below or the maximum intensities and densities of the

underlying land use designation. However, the entire development must fit within the building envelope established by the floor area ratio.

Mixed-Use Developments Located within:	Floor Area Ratio Range	Maximum Residential Density (dwelling units)
Major Corridors	from 1.0 to 1.5	36
Neighborhood Activity Nodes	from 0.75 to 1.0	18

Urban Centers

Diversified urban centers are encouraged to become hubs for future urban development intensification in Miami-Dade County, around which a more compact and efficient urban structure will evolve. These Urban Centers are intended to be moderate- to high-intensity design-unified areas which will contain a concentration of different urban functions integrated both horizontally and vertically. Three scales of centers are planned: Regional, the largest, notably the downtown Miami central business district; Metropolitan Centers such as the evolving Dadeland area; and Community Centers which will serve localized areas. Such centers shall be characterized by physical cohesiveness, direct accessibility by mass transit service, and high quality urban design. Regional and Metropolitan Centers, as described below, should also have convenient, preferably direct, connections to a nearby expressway or major roadways to ensure a high level of countywide accessibility.

The locations of urban centers and the mix and configuration of land uses within them are designed to encourage convenient alternatives to travel by automobile, to provide more efficient land use than recent suburban development forms, and to create identifiable "town centers" for Miami-Dade's diverse communities. These centers shall be designed to create an identity and a distinctive sense of place through unity of design and distinctively urban architectural character of new developments within them.

The core of the centers should contain business, employment, civic, and/or high-or moderate-density residential uses, with a variety of moderate-density housing types within walking distance from the centers. Both large and small businesses are encouraged in these centers, but the Community Centers shall contain primarily moderate and smaller sized businesses which serve, and draw from, the nearby community. Design of developments and roadways within the centers will emphasize pedestrian activity, safety and comfort, as well as vehicular movement. Transit and pedestrian mobility will be increased and areawide traffic will be reduced in several ways: proximity of housing and retail uses will allow residents to walk or bike for some daily trips; provision of both jobs, personal services and retailing within walking distance of transit will encourage transit use for commuting; and conveniently located retail areas will accommodate necessary shopping during the morning or evening commute or lunch hour.

Urban Centers are identified on the LUP map by circular symbols noting the three scales of planned centers. The Plan map indicates both emerging and proposed centers. The designation

of an area as an urban center indicates that governmental agencies encourage and support such development. The County will give special emphasis to providing a high level of public mass transit service to all planned urban centers. Given the high degree of accessibility as well as other urban services, the provisions of this section encourage the intensification of development at these centers over time. In addition to the Urban Center locations depicted on the Land Use Plan Map, all future rapid transit station sites and their surroundings shall be, at a minimum, be developed in accordance with the Community Center policies established below.

Following are policies for Development of Urban Centers designated on the Land Use Plan (LUP) map. Where the provisions of this section authorize land uses or development intensities or densities different or greater than the underlying land use designation on the LUP map, the more liberal provisions of this section shall govern. All development and redevelopment in Urban Centers shall conform with the guidelines provided below.

Uses and Activities. Regional and Metropolitan Centers shall accommodate a concentration and variety of uses and activities which will attract large numbers of both residents and visitors while Community-scale Urban Centers will be planned and designed to serve a more localized community. Uses in Urban Centers may include retail trade, business, professional and financial services, restaurants, hotels, institutional, recreational, cultural and entertainment uses, moderate to high density residential uses, and well planned public spaces. Incorporation of residential uses is encouraged, and may be approved, in all centers, except where incompatible with airport or heavy industrial activities. Residential uses may be required in areas of the County and along rapid transit lines where there exists much more commercial development than residential development, and creation of employment opportunities will be emphasized in areas of the County and along rapid transit lines where there is much more residential development than employment opportunity. Emphasis in design and development of all centers and all of their individual components shall be to create active pedestrian environments through high-quality design of public spaces as well as private buildings; human scale appointments, activities and amenities at street level; and connectivity of places through creation of a system of pedestrian linkages. Existing public water bodies shall also be incorporated by design into the public spaces within the center.

Radius. The area developed as an urban center shall extend to a one-mile radius around the core or central transit station of a Regional Urban Center designated on the LUP map. Designated Metropolitan Urban Centers shall extend not less than one-quarter mile walking distance from the core of the center or central transit stop(s) and may extend up to one-half mile from such core or transit stops along major roads and pedestrian linkages. Community Centers shall have a radius of 700 to 1,800 feet but may be extended to a radius of one-half mile where recommended in a professional area plan for the center, consistent with the guidelines herein, which plan is approved by the Board of County Commissioners after an advertised public hearing. Urban Center development shall not extend beyond the UDB.

Streets and Public Spaces. Urban Centers shall be developed in an urban form with a street system having open, accessible and continuous qualities of the surrounding grid system, with

variation, to create community focal points and termination of vistas. The street system should have frequent connections with surrounding streets and create blocks sized and shaped to facilitate incremental building over time, buildings fronting on streets and pedestrian pathways, and squares, parks and plazas defined by the buildings around them. The street system shall be planned and designed to create public space that knits the site into the surrounding urban fabric, connecting streets and creating rational, efficient pedestrian linkages. Streets shall be designed for pedestrian mobility, interest, safety and comfort as well as vehicular mobility. The size of blocks and network of streets and pedestrian accessways shall be designed so that walking routes through the center and between destinations in the center are direct, and distances are short. Emphasis shall be placed on sidewalks, with width and street-edge landscaping increased where necessary to accommodate pedestrian volumes or to enhance safety or comfort of pedestrians on sidewalks along any high-speed roadways. Crosswalks will be provided, and all multi-lane roadways shall be fitted with protected pedestrian refuges in the center median at all significant pedestrian crossings. In addition, streets shall be provided with desirable street furniture including benches, light fixtures and bus shelters. Open spaces such as public squares and greens shall be established in urban centers to provide visual orientation and a focus of social activity. They should be located next to public streets, residential areas, and commercial uses, and should be established in these places during development and redevelopment of streets and large parcels, particularly parcels 10 acres or larger. The percentage of site area for public open spaces, including squares, greens and pedestrian promenades, shall be a minimum of 15 percent of gross development area. This public area provided outdoor, at grade will be counted toward satisfaction of requirements for other common open space. Some or all of this required open space may be provided off-site but elsewhere within the subject urban center to the extent that it would better serve the quality and functionality of the center.

Parking. Shared parking is encouraged. Reductions from standard parking requirements shall be authorized where there is a complementary mix of uses on proximate development sites, and near transit stations. Parking areas should occur predominately in mid-block, block rear and on-street locations, and not between the street and main building entrances. Parking structures should incorporate other uses at street level such as shops, galleries, offices and public uses.

Buildings. Buildings and their landscapes shall be built to the sidewalk edge in a manner that frames the adjacent street to create a public space in the street corridor that is comfortable and interesting, as well as safe for pedestrians. Architectural elements at street level shall have a human scale, abundant windows and doors, and design variations at short intervals to create interest for the passing pedestrian. Continuous blank walls at street level are prohibited. In areas of significant pedestrian activity, weather protection should be provided by awnings, canopies, arcades and colonnades.

Density and Intensity. The range of average floor area ratios (FARs) and the maximum allowed residential densities of development within the Regional, Metropolitan and Community Urban Centers are shown in the table below.

	Average Floor Area Ratios (FAR)	Max. Densities Dwellings per Gross Acre
Regional Activity Centers	greater than 4.0 in the core not less than 2.0 in the edge	500
Metropolitan Urban Centers	greater than 3.0 in the core not less than 0.75 in the edge	250
Community Urban Centers	greater than 1.5 in the core not less than 0.5 in the edge	125

In addition, the densities and intensities of developments located within designated Community Urban Centers and around rail rapid transit stations should not be lower than those provided in Policy LU-7F. Height of buildings at the edge of Metropolitan Urban Centers adjoining stable residential neighborhoods should taper to a height no more than 2 stories higher than the adjacent residences, and one story higher at the edge of Community Urban Centers. However, where the adjacent area is undergoing transition, heights at the edge of the Center may be based on adopted comprehensive plans and zoning of the surrounding area. Densities of residential uses shall be authorized as necessary for residential or mixed-use developments in Urban Centers to conform to these intensity and height policies.

As noted previously in this section, urban centers are encouraged to intensify incrementally over time. Accordingly, in planned future rapid transit corridors, these intensities may be implemented in phases as necessary to conform with provisions of the Transportation Element, and the concurrency management program in the Capital Improvement Element, while ensuring achievement of the other land use and design requirements of this section and Policy LU-7F.

Chapter 380 Regional Activity Centers. Chapter 380.06(2)(e), Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapter 28-24.014, Florida Administrative Code (FAC), authorize local governments to designate areas as regional activity centers, hereinafter "Chapter 380 regional activity centers", where the local government seeks to encourage higher intensities of development by increasing the threshold of the development size required to undergo State review as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI). In addition, Policy 11.14 of the Adopted 2004 Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida authorizes the designation of "Regional Development Districts" to implement provisions of Chapters 380.0651(3)(d)(3) and (3)(g)(2), F.S., which provide for the designation of geographic areas highly suitable for increased (DRI review) threshold intensity. The designation of a specific area and boundaries as a Chapter 380 regional activity center for the purpose of increasing DRI review thresholds does not change the CDMP Land Use Plan map designation of any land, nor does it change the uses or intensities of development authorized by the CDMP. It only changes the circumstances under which proposed developments in the designated area would have to be reviewed through the Chapter 380, F.S., DRI process. The following area is hereby designated to be a Chapter 380 regional activity center and, subject to approval by the South Florida Regional Planning Council, a regional development district (a geographic area specifically designated as highly suitable for increased threshold intensity), for the purpose of increasing DRI review thresholds:

1. Dadeland, as depicted on Figure 3.

Parks and Recreation

The Land Use Plan map specifically illustrates parks and recreation areas of metropolitan significance, including State parks and the Biscayne and Everglades National Parks. Also illustrated are golf courses and other parks of approximately 40 acres and larger which are significant community features. Most neighborhood local parks smaller than 40 acres in size are not specifically shown on the Plan map; however, this omission should not be interpreted as meaning that these parks will be taken out of public use. Compatible parks are encouraged in all of the residential categories and may be allowed in all other categories of the LUP map. The siting and use of future parks and recreation areas shall be guided by the Park and Open Space, and Capital Improvements Elements, and by the goals, objectives and policies of the CDMP. Both governmentally and privately owned lands are included in areas designated for Parks and Recreation use. Most of the designated privately owned land either possesses outstanding environmental qualities and unique potential for public recreation, or is a golf course included within a large scale development. Unless otherwise restricted, the privately owned land designated as Parks and Recreation may be developed for a use or a density comparable to, and compatible with, surrounding development providing that such development is consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the CDMP. Except as consistent with the provisions below, however, this allowance does not apply to land designated Parks and Recreation that was set aside for park recreation or open space use as a part of, or as a basis for approving the density or other aspect of, a residential (or other) development or is otherwise subject to a restrictive covenant accepted by a public entity.

The long term use of golf courses or other private recreation or open space on privately owned land designated as Park and Recreation may be previously limited by deed restriction or restrictive covenant. A new development plan governing such land set-aside for park, recreation or open space use (restricted lands) may be approved at public hearing by the Board of County Commissioners or the applicable zoning board only if the following is demonstrated: (1) that the restricted land is subject to a restrictive covenant relating to development served by the open space, that such restrictive covenant continues to limit the use of the land to open space, and that this limitation in the restrictive covenant may be modified only with the written consent of adjacent or proximate property owners or a prescribed percentage thereof; (2) that the required written consents of the adjacent or proximate property owners have been obtained; and (3) that the proposed development will replace park or recreation land or open space that has fallen into prolonged disuse or disrepair to the detriment of the surrounding neighborhood. The development plan for such land (1) shall provide for development compatible with adjacent development; (2) shall provide by restrictive covenant that not less than two-thirds of the land subject to the new development plan (or such other proportion deemed appropriate by the Board of County Commissioners and/or appropriate Community Zoning Appeals Board but in no event less than 50 percent of such land) shall be maintained as Park, Recreational or open space for use by residents or other residents or users of the entire development for which the open space had originally been provided; (3) shall provide a financial means of assuring such maintenance, by homeowner's association, special tax district or other comparable means approved at public hearing or by the Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning or successor agency; and (4) shall provide that the residential density of the portion of the Park

and Recreation-designated land eligible for development shall not exceed either the gross existing density of the development in connection with which the park-designated land was originally set aside, or the gross density of all the ownership parcels immediately abutting the entire the park-designated land whichever is lower. An approval pursuant to this provision may allow the gross density of the combined new and existing development, and its existing zoning, to exceed the maximum otherwise allowed by the LUP map, but only to the extent necessary to enable reuse of the park designated land in accordance with this provision. Nothing herein shall be construed to permit development of property subject to a restrictive covenant accepted by the country or other public entity without compliance with the terms that covenant including, but not limited to, those terms governing modification or amendment thereof.

Certain commercial activities that support the recreational uses and relate to the resources of the park, such as marine supply stores, fuel docks or tennis and golf clubhouses may be considered for approval in the Parks and Recreation category. Other commercial recreational, entertainment or cultural uses may also be considered for approval in the Parks and Recreation category if authorized in accordance with Article 6 of the Miami-Dade Charter, as amended, and if they are related to, and would increase the quality, utility or enjoyment of the site and its natural, historical, and archaeological resources and facilities.

Some of the land shown for Parks is also environmentally sensitive. While most of these environmentally sensitive areas are designated on the LUP map as “Environmentally Protected Parks” some may be designated as Parks and Recreation due to graphic constraints (the environmentally sensitive portion of the park that is smaller than five acres).

Environmentally Protected Parks

The land designated as “Environmentally Protected Parks is environmentally sensitive and includes tropical hardwood hammocks, high-quality Dade County pineland and viable mangrove forests. Some sites proposed for public acquisition under Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL), Florida's Conservation and Recreational Lands (CARL) and Florida Forever programs are identified in this category on the LUP map although they may be as small as ten acres in size. All portions of parkland designated Environmentally Protected Parks or other parkland which is characterized by valuable environmental resources shall be managed in a manner consistent with the goals, objectives and policies for development of the applicable environmental resources or protection area. Accordingly, resource enhancing facilities including boardwalks, nature trails, canoe trails and launches and interpretive facilities may be provided in these areas.

Institutions, Utilities and Communications

The Plan map illustrates, for information purposes, only the location of major institutional uses, communication facilities and utilities of metropolitan significance. Depicted are such uses as major hospitals, medical complexes, colleges, universities, regional water-supply, antenna fields, radio and television broadcast towers, wastewater and solid waste utility facilities such as the resources recovery plant, major government office centers and military

installations. The full range of institutions, communications and utilities may be allowed under this land use category. Offices are also allowed in this map category. Internally integrated business areas smaller than 5 acres in size or up to 10 percent of the total floor area of an institutional, public facility or office use may also be approved in this map category. If the owner of land designated as Institutions, Utilities and Communications chooses to develop the land for a different use and no public agency intends to use the site for a public facility, the land may be developed for a use or a density comparable to and compatible with surrounding development providing that such development is consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the CDMP especially Policies LU-4A and LU-4B.

The Homestead Air Reserve Base is also included in this category on the Land Use Plan map. The range of uses that may occur on the Base as it is redeveloped shall emphasize military aviation and related uses, national security, recreation uses, educational and other institutional uses. All future uses on the former Base will be consistent with the Record of Decision issued by the Secretary of the Air Force as it pertains to County use of the Base property.

Neighborhood or community-serving institutional uses, cell towers and utilities including schools, libraries, sanitary sewer pump stations and fire and rescue facilities in particular, and cemeteries may be approved where compatible in all urban land use categories, in keeping with any conditions specified in the applicable category, and where provided in certain Open Land subareas. Compatibility shall be determined in accordance to Policy LU-4A. Co-location of communication and utility facilities are encouraged. Major utility and communication facilities should generally be guided away from residential areas; however, when considering such approvals, the County shall consider such factors as the type of function involved, the public need, existing land use patterns in the area and alternative locations for the facility. All approvals must be consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan.

Electric power transmission line corridors are permitted in every land use category when located in established right-of-ways or certified under the Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act (Sections 403.501-403.518, F.S.) as an ancillary use to a new power plant, or the Transmission Line Siting Act (Sections 403.52-403.5365 F.S.) for individual electrical transmission lines. If an electric power transmission line corridor does not meet either of the above conditions, it shall be situated in an area designated as Institutions, Utilities and Communications; Industrial and Office; Business and Office; or Parks and Recreation on the adopted Land Use Plan map. When compatible with adjacent uses and permitted by County and State regulations, non-utility ancillary uses that may be located in transmission line corridors include agriculture, parking lots, open space, golf courses, bikeways and paths for walking and exercising.

Transportation

The LUP map includes a summarized portrayal of the major components of Miami-Dade County's existing and future transportation network. Included are roadways, rapid transit corridors, railways and major switching yards, and such major terminals as the County

airports and the Miami-Dade Seaport. This information is included on the LUP map to provide orientation and locational references, and to relate future development patterns to the future transportation network. The Transportation and Capital Improvements Elements of the CDMP provide additional details about these facilities, including their intended sizes, functions, uses, and designs and, with the exception of local streets, schedules of improvements.

As provided in the policies of the Transportation Element, transportation facilities such as terminals and transit stations shall contain the transportation uses and may contain other uses as provided in the applicable Transportation Subelement. Railroad terminals may include uses designed to serve the traveling public and on-site employees, such as offices, personal services, retail activities, restaurants, auto rental business, and lodging establishments. Rail yards may also be developed with industrial, office and similar uses that are customary and incidental to the primary railroad use.

Lands owned by Miami-Dade County at the Opa-locka Airport that are designated as Terminal on the LUP map, may be developed for the uses described in this subsection. All proposed uses on such lands shall comply with the requirements of the Future Aviation Facilities Section of the Aviation Subelement, shall be compatible with, and not disruptive of, airport operations occurring on such lands, and shall comply with all applicable regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration and other applicable law.

The airside portion of the airport, which shall be deemed to consist of all portions of the airport where general public access is restricted (but not including terminal concourses), shall be limited to aviation uses, including but not limited to airfield uses such as runways, taxiways, aprons, clear zones, landing areas, and support and maintenance facilities such as control towers, flight service stations, access roads, fire stations, and fuel farms. Where not otherwise prohibited by law, open space and interim or existing agricultural uses and zoning may also be permitted in the airside portion, subject to such conditions and requirements as may be imposed to ensure public health and safety.

The landside portion of the airport, which shall be deemed to consist of all portions of the airport where general public access is not restricted and also terminal concourses, may include both aviation uses and non-aviation uses that are compatible with airport operations and consistent with applicable law. At least 30% of the land area in the landside portion must be developed with aviation-related uses or uses that directly support airport operations.

Aviation uses where general public access is allowed may include existing uses and the following or substantially similar uses:

- passenger terminal area, which may include non-aviation related uses designed to serve the traveling public and on-site employees, such as offices, personal services, retail activities, restaurants, auto rental businesses, and lodging establishments,
- parking garages and lots serving the airport,
- access roadways serving the airport,
- offices of aviation industry companies and the Miami-Dade County Aviation Department,

- facilities of fixed base operators,
- hangar rentals and tie downs,
- ground transportation services,
- aircraft and automobile rental establishments,
- aviation-related educational uses such as flight schools, simulator training facilities, helicopter and aerobatics training and other educational facilities providing aviation courses,
- aviation-related governmental agency facilities,
- flying club facilities,
- aviation-related entertainment uses such as skydiving establishments, museums and sightseeing services, and
- aviation-related retail uses such as aircraft sales, electronic an instrument sales and pilot stores.

Subject to the restrictions contained herein, the following privately owned non-aviation-related uses may be approved in the landside area of the Opa-locka Airport accessible to the general public:

- lodgings such as hotels and motels (except in terminal concourses),
- office buildings (except in terminal concourses),
- industrial uses such as distribution, storage, manufacturing research and development and machine shops(except in terminal concourses),
- agricultural uses, and
- retail, restaurants, and personal service establishments.

Such privately owned non-aviation related uses at the Opa-Locka Airport shall be limited as follows:

- (1) Those portions of the landside area that are not developed for uses that are aviation-related or directly supportive of airport operations shall range from 50 to 85 percent for industrial uses, 5 to 25 percent for commercial uses, 5 to 25 percent for office uses, 0 to 10 percent for hotels and motels, and 0 to 20 percent for institutional uses. The distribution, range, intensity and types of such non-aviation related uses shall vary by location as a function of the availability of public services, height restrictions, CDMP intensity ceiling for the Urban Infill Area (FAR of 2.0 not counting parking structures) or the Urbanizing Area (FAR of 1.5 not counting parking structures) involved, impact on roadways, access and compatibility with neighboring development. Freestanding retail and personal service uses and shopping centers shall front service uses and shopping centers shall front on major access roads preferably near major intersections, where practicable, and have limited access to major roadways.
- (2) Each non-aviation related use shall comply with applicable law, including but not limited to FAA regulations and any airport layout plan governing permissible uses on the entire airport property.

The Port of Miami and downtown Miami maritime park areas are also included in this category. Because the CDMP does not generally preempt municipal plans and because the City of Miami comprehensive plan allows a broad range of land uses and facilities in addition to transportation facilities, it is the intent of the CDMP that all actions of the County with regard to development in the downtown Miami maritime park area are deemed to be consistent with the CDMP if consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan of the City of Miami. Further, notwithstanding the City's comprehensive plan, it is the intention of the CDMP that Port developments on Dodge and Lummus Islands and on the mainland may include other uses including, but not limited to, commercial, recreational and cultural uses accessible to Port users, County visitors and residents.

The summarized roadway classification used on the LUP map distinguishes between Limited Access facilities, Major Roadways (3 or more lane arterials and collectors) and Minor Roadways (2 lane arterials and collectors). Also shown are existing and proposed Rapid Transit corridors. The term rapid transit, as used herein, includes any public heavy rail or light rail, or busses operating on exclusive bus lanes. The transportation network depicted is a year 2025 network that will develop incrementally as funding becomes available. In addition, rapid transit corridors may be provided with an interim type of service such as express bus service during much of the planning period while more permanent facilities are being planned, designed and constructed. The roadway and transit alignments shown in the CDMP are general indications of the facility location. Specific alignments may be modified through detailed transportation planning, DRI review and approval processes, subdivision platting, highway design and engineering or other detailed planning or engineering processes. Moreover, most station locations along future rapid transit lines are not identified in the Plan; they will be selected as part of the detailed planning of transit facilities in the corridor.

Because of the critical relationships between transportation facilities and the land uses served and impacted by those facilities, land use and transportation planning decisions must be made in direct concert with one another. Accordingly provisions for nonlocal roadways, public mass transportation facilities, rail lines, airports and the Miami-Dade Seaport facilities contained in the Transportation Element should not be amended without concurrent evaluation and, as applicable, amendment of the Land Use Plan map. In particular, extension or widening Major or Minor Roadways beyond 2 lanes outside the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) of the LUP map may occur only if indicated on the LUP map.

Water

This category includes all natural waters such as coastal waters and navigable rivers or waters. Water-dependent uses and water-related uses along coastal shorelines as discussed under Objective CM-5 as well as ancillary structures or uses may be permitted for flood control or recreational purposes. Man-made water bodies are permitted in any land use category subject to applicable environmental regulations.

Urban Development Boundary

The Urban Development Boundary (UDB) is included on the LUP map to distinguish the area where urban development may occur through the year 2015 from areas where it should not occur. Development orders permitting urban development will generally be approved within the UDB at some time through the year 2015 provided that level-of-service standards for necessary public facilities will be met. Adequate countywide development capacity will be maintained within the UDB by increasing development densities or intensities inside the UDB, or by expanding the UDB, when the need for such change is determined to be necessary through the Plan review and amendment process.

The CDMP seeks to facilitate the necessary service improvements within the UDB to accommodate the land uses indicated on the LUP map within the year 2015 time frame. Accordingly, public expenditures for urban service and infrastructure improvements shall be focused on the area within the UDB, and urban infrastructure is discouraged outside the UDB. In particular, the construction of new roads, or the extension, widening and paving of existing arterial or collector roadways to serve areas outside the UDB at public expense will be permitted only if such roadways are shown on the LUP map and in the Transportation Element.

The entire unincorporated area within the UDB is eligible to receive and utilize Severable Use Rights (SURs) in accordance with provisions of Chapter 33-B, Code of Miami-Dade County. Accordingly, certain developments as specified in Chapter 33-B may be entitled to density or floor area bonuses as authorized by Chapter 33-B. If the existing SUR program is modified pursuant to Land Use Element Policy LU-9C or other transferable development rights programs are established, all rights established by such programs shall be transferable to receiver sites inside the UDB as established in those programs.

No new commercial agricultural use of property may be established within the Urban Development Boundary, except on property designated Agriculture on the LUP map or zoned AU (Agricultural) or GU (Interim). All property within the Urban Development Boundary not designated Agriculture or zoned AU or GU shall not be permitted to be used for the establishment of any new commercial agricultural use. An additional exception is that land in utility easements or rights-of-way or airport or other large government - owned properties may be approved for new commercial agricultural uses where the use would be compatible with, and would have no unfavorable effect on, the surrounding area. Commercial agricultural uses include, without limitation, all uses of property associated with commercial horticulture; floriculture; viticulture; forestry; dairy; livestock; poultry; apiculture; pisciculture, when the property is used principally for the production of tropical fish; all forms of farm production; and all other such uses, except retail nurseries and retail greenhouses. Incidental agricultural use of property specifically authorized by zoning which is otherwise consistent with the LUP map does not constitute commercial agriculture use within the meaning of this provision.

Urban Expansion Area

The Land Use Plan map also contains a year 2025 Urban Expansion Area (UEA) Boundary. The UEA is comprised of that area located between the 2015 UDB and the 2025 UEA Boundary. The Urban Expansion Area is the area where current projections indicate that further urban development beyond the 2015 UDB is likely to be warranted some time between the year 2015 and 2025. Until these areas are brought within the year 2015 UDB through the Plan review and amendment process, they are allowed to be used in a manner consistent with the provisions set forth for lands designated as "Agriculture" or the applicable "Open Land" area.

Urban infrastructure and services should be planned for eventual extension into the UEA, sometime between the years 2015 and 2025. However, if water or sewer lines or major roadway improvements are extended beyond the UEA in order to serve a necessary public facility that has been approved consistent with the Comprehensive Development Master Plan, these improvements should be sized or restricted to accommodate only the needs of the public facility.

Agriculture

The area designated as "Agriculture" contains the best agricultural land remaining in Miami-Dade County. As stated in the Miami-Dade County Strategic Plan, approved in 2003 by the Board of County Commissioners, protection of viable agriculture is a priority. The principal uses in this area should be agriculture, uses ancillary to and directly supportive of agriculture such as packing houses, and farm residences. Uses ancillary to, and necessary to support the rural residential community of the agricultural area may also be approved, including houses of worship; however, schools shall not be approved in Agriculture areas but should be located inside the UDB in accordance with Policy EDU-2.A.

In order to protect the agricultural industry, uses incompatible with agriculture, and uses and facilities that support or encourage urban development are not allowed in this area. Residential development that occurs in this area is allowed at a density of no more than one unit per five acres. Creation of new parcels smaller than five acres for residential use may be approved in the Agriculture area only if the immediate area surrounding the subject parcel on three or more contiguous sides is predominately and lawfully parcelized in a similar manner, and if a division of the subject parcel would not precipitate additional land division in the area. No business or industrial use should be approved in the area designated Agriculture unless the use is directly supportive of local agricultural production, and is located on an existing arterial roadway, and has adequate water supply and sewage disposal in accordance with Chapter 24 of the County Code, and the development order specifies the approved use(s); however, packing houses for produce grown in Florida are not restricted to locating on an existing arterial roadway. Other uses, including utility uses compatible with agriculture and with the rural residential character may be approved in the Agriculture area only if deemed to be a public necessity, or if deemed to be in the public interest and the applicant demonstrates that no suitable site for the use exists outside the Agriculture area.

Existing quarrying and ancillary uses in the Agriculture area may continue operation and be considered for approval of expansion.

In an effort to enable compatible diversification of the economy of Agriculture areas and provide additional land use options for owners of properties that surround structures having historical significance, after such time as the County adopts procedures for the establishment of Thematic Resource Districts (TRDs) pursuant to Policy LU-6L, and a TRD including architectural and landscape design guidelines is established in an area designated Agriculture, additional uses may be authorized in such TRDs established in Agriculture areas. Such additional uses must be designed and developed in accordance with TRD standards, must promote ecotourism activities in the Agriculture area, and must not be incompatible with nearby agricultural activities.

Also included in the Agriculture area are enclaves of estate density residential use approved and grandfathered by zoning, ownership patterns and platting activities which predate this Plan. The grandfather provisions of the Miami-Dade County Zoning Code shall continue to apply in this area except that lots smaller than 15,000 square feet in area are not grandfathered hereby. Moreover, all existing lawful uses and zoning are deemed to be consistent with this Plan unless such a use or zoning: (a) is found through a subsequent planning study, as provided in Policy LU-4E, to be inconsistent with the foregoing grandfather provisions or with the CDMP as provided in the section of this chapter titled "Concepts and Limitations of the Land Use Plan Map". This paragraph does not, however, authorize the approval or expansion of any use inconsistent with this plan. To the contrary, it is the intent of this Plan to contain and prevent the expansion of inconsistent development in the Agriculture area.

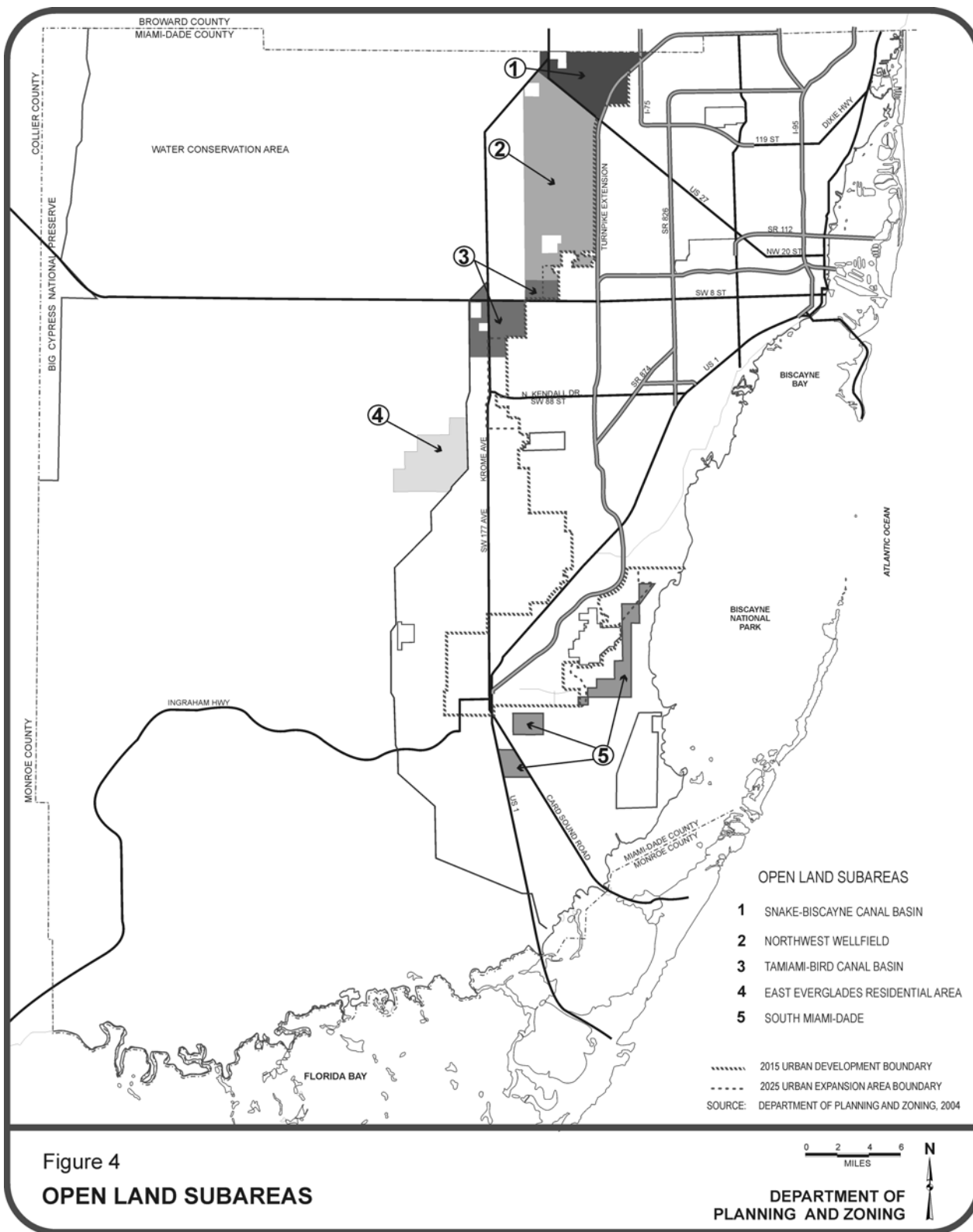
Agricultural Subarea 1 (East Everglades Agricultural Area). This Subarea is bounded on the north by SW 168 Street; on the east by Levee 31N and Canal 111; on the south by Environmental Protection Subareas D and Everglades National Park; and on the west by Everglades National Park (See Figure 3A). Notwithstanding any uses otherwise permitted in the Agriculture area, uses in Agricultural Subarea 1 are limited solely to: (1) lawful agricultural uses; (2) rural residences at a maximum density of one dwelling unit per 40 acres, or one dwelling unit per 20 acres if ancillary to a lawfully established agricultural use; and (3) uses permitted under the vested rights provisions of Section 33B-29, Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Open Land

The land designated as "Open Land" is not needed for urban uses between now and the year 2015 and has been set aside for uses other than urban development. It is not simply surplus undeveloped land, but rather it is land that is intended to serve one or more of the following functions: production such as agriculture, limestone extraction or other resource-based activity such as development of potable water supplies; rural residential development at a maximum density indicated for the specific Open Land subarea, but no greater than one unit per five acres; recreation; compatible utility and public facilities as indicated for the specific Open Land Subarea, and conservation, maintenance or enhancement of environmental character. Lower residential densities may be required in some areas for purposes of avoiding flood conditions or to avoid degradation of environmental systems or features. Because of the water supply-related or other environmental functions of those areas, they may also be considered for acquisition by federal, State, regional, County or private institutions that would manage these areas to optimize environmental functions, and for location of project features such as reservoirs, stormwater treatment areas, canals, and flow-ways constructed pursuant to the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

Also included in some Open Land areas are some existing year-round agricultural activities, and some enclaves of estate density residential use approved and grandfathered by zoning, ownership patterns and platting activities which predate this Plan. The grandfather provisions of the Miami-Dade County Zoning Code shall continue to apply in Subareas 1, 2, 3 and 5, except that residential lots smaller than 15,000 square feet in area are not grandfathered hereby. Moreover, all existing lawful uses and zoning are deemed to be consistent with this Plan unless a use or zoning: (a) is found through a subsequent planning study, as provided in Policy LU-4E, to be inconsistent with the foregoing grandfather provisions or inconsistent with the CDMP as provided in the section of this chapter titled "Concepts and Limitations of the Land Use Plan Map". This paragraph does not, however, authorize the expansion of any use inconsistent with the specific provisions for the applicable Open Land subarea. To the contrary, it is the intent of this plan to contain and prevent the expansion of such inconsistent development in Open Land areas.

Because Open Land areas primarily consist of wetlands, all proposed uses will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. No particular use, other than rural residential use at specified densities is definitively allowed. Following is an indication of the uses and residential densities that are likely to be permitted in each of five Open Land Subareas, subject to conformity with the pertinent goals, objectives, and policies of this Plan. The Land Use Plan map depicts the precise boundary of the entire Open Land area. The map titled "Open Land Subareas" (Figure 4) and the following text indicate the boundaries between Open Land Subareas.



Open Land Subarea 1 (Snake-Biscayne Canal Basin). This subarea is located north of the Miami Canal (Canal-6) in northwestern Miami-Dade County. Rural residential use at 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres, limestone quarrying and ancillary uses, compatible institutional uses, public facilities, utility facilities, and communications facilities, recreational uses and seasonal agriculture¹ may be considered for approval in this subarea. Uses that could compromise groundwater quality shall not occur west of the Turnpike Extension.

Open Land Subarea 2 (Northwest Wellfield). This Open Land subarea is bounded on the north by the Miami Canal, on the east by the Turnpike Extension, on the west by the Dade-Broward Levee, and on the south by NW 25 Street between the Turnpike Extension and NW 137 Avenue and by NW 12 Street and its hypothetical extension between NW 137 Avenue and the Dade-Broward Levee. Limestone quarrying and ancillary uses including the continued operation of existing cement plants, necessary and compatible institutional uses, public facilities, utility facilities, and communications facilities, recreational uses, rural residences at a maximum density of 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres and seasonal agriculture may be considered for approval in this area, in keeping with the Northwest Wellfield Protection Plan (Board of County Commissioners Resolution R-1541-85) and Chapters 24 and 33 of the Miami-Dade County Code, and wetland protection requirements. Uses that could compromise groundwater quality shall not occur in this area. In furtherance of Board of County Commissioners Resolution R-1098-88, the creation of a State Protection Area in this subarea is also supported.

Open Land Subarea 3 (Tamiami-Bird Canal Basins). This subarea is bounded on its north by hypothetical NW 12 Street and SW 8 Street, on the east by the year 2015 UDB, on the south by the year 2015 UDB and hypothetical SW 56 Street, and on the west by SW/NW 147 Avenue and Levee 31N. The subarea: includes the eastern portion of the North Trail basin and the Bird Drive Everglades basin. Uses that can be considered for approval in this subarea include rural residences at a maximum density of 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres, compatible institutional uses, public facilities, utility and communications facilities, seasonal agricultural use, recreational use, or limestone quarrying and ancillary uses. Uses that could compromise groundwater quality shall not occur in this area. Any land alteration and development in the Bird Drive or North Trail basins shall conform to the wetland basin plans adopted for those basins pursuant to policies of the CDMP.

Open Land Subarea 4 (East Everglades Residential Areas). This subarea is bounded on the north, west and southwest by Everglades National Park, on the east by Levee 31N, and on the south by SW 168 Street. Uses which may be considered for approval in this area are seasonal agriculture and rural residences at a density of 1 dwelling unit per 40 acres, or 1 dwelling unit per 20 acres if ancillary to an established agricultural operation, or 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres, after such time as drainage facilities become

¹ For purposes of this chapter, seasonal agriculture means those agricultural activities which occur during the months November through April on land at natural elevation, or which occur during the months May through October on land that is, or has been bedded or filled to an elevation at or above Miami-Dade County flood criteria, and given that no additional off-site drainage will occur.

available to protect this area from a one-in-ten-year flood event in keeping with the adopted East Everglades zoning overlay regulation (Section 33B, Code of Miami-Dade County) and compatible and necessary utility facilities. Uses that could compromise groundwater quality shall not occur in this area.

Open Land Subarea 5 (South Miami-Dade). This Open Land subarea lies south and east of Homestead and Florida City. It is bounded on the north and west by the Agriculture area, and on the south and east by Environmental Protection areas. Future uses which may be considered for approval in this area include seasonal agriculture, limestone quarrying and ancillary uses, compatible institutional uses, public facilities, utility facilities, and communications facilities, recreational uses and rural residences at a maximum density of 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres. Uses that could compromise groundwater quality shall not occur within three miles of Biscayne Bay.

Environmental Protection

The Environmental Protection designation applies to those areas in the County most environmentally significant, most susceptible to environmental degradation and where such degradation would adversely affect the supply of potable fresh water or environmental systems of County, regional, State or national importance. These lands are characteristically high-quality marshes, swamps and wet prairies, and are not suited for urban or agricultural development. However, some high-quality uplands such as tropical hammocks and pinelands on the State Conservation And Recreation Lands (CARL) and Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) acquisition lists are also included. Most of the CARL projects are designated on the future Land Use Plan (LUP) Map, but some are not because of their small size. EEL projects that are acquired and are large enough to be depicted at the Plan Map scale are also designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map. It is the policy of this Plan that all land areas identified on the State CARL, Miami-Dade County EEL, and South Florida Water Management Save Our Rivers (SOR) acquisition lists shall have equally high priority for public acquisition as those land areas designated Environmental Protection on the Future LUP Map. Uses permitted within these areas must be compatible with the area's environment and the objectives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, and shall not adversely affect the long-term viability, form or function of these ecosystems. Residential development in this area shall be limited to a maximum density of one unit per five acres, and in some parts of this area lower densities are required to protect the fresh water supply and the integrity of the ecosystems. Public and private wetland mitigation banks and restoration programs may also be approved in Environmental Protection areas where beneficial to county ecological systems.

Because of the importance of maintaining the natural form and function of these areas, many of these areas have been slated for purchase by State or federal agencies. Miami-Dade County will encourage the acquisition of these areas by public or private institutions that will manage these areas toward this objective. However, so long as these lands remain in private ownership, some compatible use of this land will be permitted by Miami-Dade County consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of

this Plan and the objectives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. All proposed uses will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for compliance with environmental regulations and consistency with this Plan and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. The following provides an indication of the uses and residential densities that may be considered for approval subject to conformity with the pertinent goals, objectives and policies of this Plan. The precise boundary of the entire Environmental Protection area is depicted on the LUP map. The map titled "Environmental Protection Subareas" (Figure 5) and the following text indicate the boundaries between subareas of the Environmental Protection Area.

Environmental Protection Subarea A (State Water Conservation Area). This subarea contains the land and water areas within national preserve and the authorized boundaries of Water Conservation Area No. 3 of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Most of the land in these areas is under ownership of the National Park Service or the SFWMD, and acquisition of the remainder is currently being pursued. Miami-Dade County encourages full acquisition of these areas, with the understanding that revenue obtained from the purchase of the Dade-Collier Training and Transition Airport will be used to acquire another acceptable site to accommodate the long-term growth of commercial aviation activity traditionally accommodated by Miami International Airport.

Land uses and activities, which may occur in the Big Cypress National Preserve, are outlined in management plans prepared and adopted by the National Park Service. In addition, any development, which might be contemplated for non-federal lands in the Big Cypress area, is also limited by this Plan and by provisions of the Miami-Dade County Code to uses that are consistent with Florida Rules governing the Big Cypress Areas of Critical State Concern (Chapter 27 F-3, Part III, F.A.C.). Land uses and activities in Water Conservation Area 3 are governed by the SFWMD. Miami-Dade County supports the implementation of land use and management policies and programs established by the SFWMD. In Water Conservation Area No. 3, Miami-Dade County will consider approval of no use in excess of one dwelling unit per forty acres.

Miami-Dade County supports the implementation of those agencies' management policies and programs. Accordingly, until acquisition has been completed, uses permitted in the Big Cypress Preserve area by Miami-Dade County will be limited to rural residential use at a maximum density of one dwelling unit per five acres and utility and communication facilities with limited ground coverage, provided that the site can be designed and accessed in a manner consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of this Plan, all prevailing environmental regulations and the referenced State Rules governing the Big Cypress Critical Area, whichever are most protective. In Water Conservation Area No. 3, Miami-Dade County will support the use policies established by the South Florida Water Management District and will consider approval of no use in excess of one dwelling unit per forty acres.

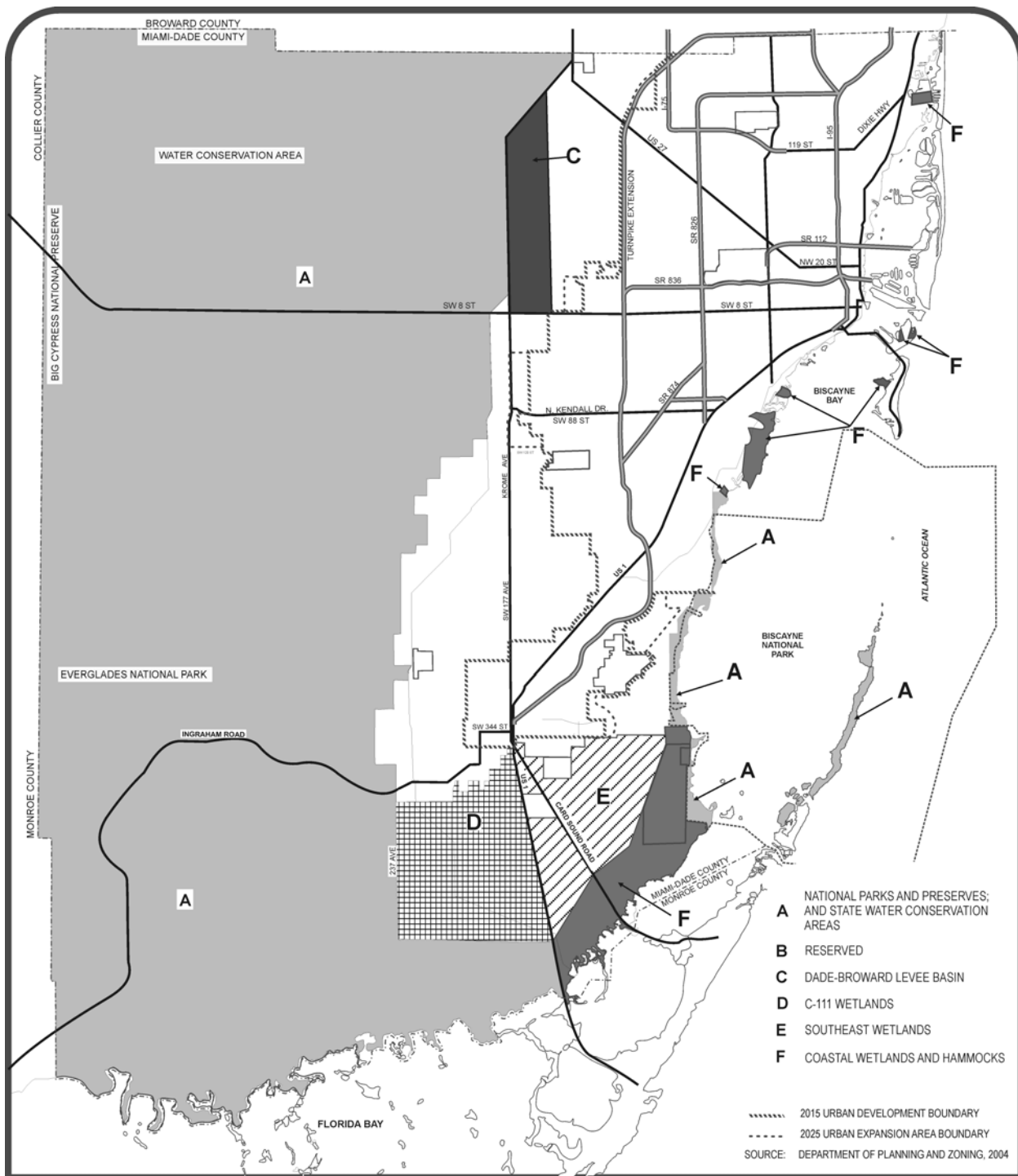


Figure 5

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SUBAREAS

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MILES

**DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING AND ZONING**

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Environmental Protection Subarea C (Miami-Dade-Broward Levee Basin). This subarea is bounded on the west and north by Levee 30, on the east by the Dade-Broward Levee and on the South by the Tamiami Canal (C-4). The majority of the subarea (north of hypothetical NW 12 Street) is addressed by the adopted Northwest Wellfield Protection Plan (Board of County Commissioners Resolution R-1541-85). The subarea is wetland and all land use and site alteration proposals will be closely evaluated on a case-by-case basis by federal, State, regional and County agencies for conformity with all prevailing environmental regulations and compatibility with objectives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. The South Florida Water Management District has listed this area as an acquisition proposal in its 5-year Save Our Rivers acquisition program.

Until these lands are acquired, land uses that may be considered for approval include rural residences at a maximum density of one dwelling unit per five acres, communications facilities with limited ground coverage, recreational facilities, and necessary, compatible public facilities including water management facilities. Existing permitted uses, including seasonal agricultural uses, may be continued until they can be acquired. Within the Northwest Wellfield Protection area, uses will be closely regulated to ensure the protection of water quality.

Environmental Protection Subarea D (Canal-111 Wetlands). This subarea contains the southern portion of the East Everglades, south of Florida City. The subarea is bounded on the west and south by Everglades National Park, on the east by US Highway 1, and on the north by the Agriculture area and Open Land Subarea 5. The area is traversed by Canal-111 and is the subject of a Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan project seeking to remedy degraded hydrological and biotic conditions in this portion of the Everglades. Most of this area is under the ownership of the South Florida Water Management District and most of the remainder is proposed for acquisition under the State's Save Our Rivers program. The lands that are not yet slated for public acquisition should be studied to determine whether public acquisition would be mutually beneficial to public and private interests in the area. These areas are wetlands and subject to case-by-case evaluation of use or site-alteration proposals by federal, State, regional and County agencies. Moreover, most of this land is also included in the area governed by the East Everglades Resource Management program (Chapter 33-B, Code of Miami-Dade County).

Land uses that may be considered for approval on land governed by the referenced East Everglades Resource Management Program include rural residences at a maximum density of one dwelling unit per 40 acres, or one dwelling unit per parcel fronting US Highway 1 in accordance with provisions of the referenced East Everglades program. Rural residences at a maximum density of up to one dwelling unit per five acres may be considered for approval on those parcels not governed by the East Everglades regulation. Approval of any use and its access should be conditioned on its demonstrated consistency with the adopted goals, objectives and policies of the CDMP, and conformity with all prevailing environmental regulations and compatibility with objectives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. Existing uses may continue until acquired, but no improvements or expansions involving further filling or drainage of wetlands should be permitted.

Environmental Protection Subarea E (Southeast Wetlands). This Environmental Protection subarea is bounded on the west by US Highway 1 on the north by Open Land Subarea 5, on the east by Levee 31E and on the south by a hypothetical line extending between the point at which Card Sound Road meets Levee 31E, and the intersection of US Highway 1 and Canal-111. The area is low lying, poorly drained, flood prone, and is characterized predominantly by high-quality wetland communities. Accordingly, any land use or site alteration proposal will be carefully evaluated on a case-by-case basis by federal, State, regional, and County agencies for conformity with all prevailing environmental regulations and compatibility with objectives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

Because of the importance of maintaining the biotic and hydrologic functions provided by this area, the southeast wetlands should be studied to determine whether public acquisition would be mutually beneficial to public and private interests in the area. Uses which could be considered for approval include rural residential use at a maximum density of one dwelling unit per five acres or communications, utility or recreation facilities with limited ground coverage. Approval of any use and its access roads or easements should be conditioned on its demonstrated consistency with the adopted goals, objectives and policies of this plan, and conformity with all prevailing environmental regulations.

Environmental Protection Subarea F (Coastal Wetlands and Hammocks). This subarea includes all coastal wetlands designated as Environmental Protection Area on the LUP map which are not within the authorized boundaries of Biscayne or Everglades National Parks. These areas are low-lying, flood prone and characterized predominantly by coastal wetland communities. Accordingly, all land use or site alteration proposals will be carefully evaluated on a case-by-case basis by federal, State, regional, and County agencies.

Because of the importance of maintaining biologic and hydrologic functions provided by these areas, the coastal wetlands should be managed toward these ends and acquired whenever possible. However, until these lands are acquired for natural resource management uses which could be considered for approval include residential use at a density not to exceed one dwelling unit per five acres, water-dependant uses, or necessary compatible public, water related facilities consistent with the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage Element and the Coastal Management Element of this Plan. In addition, necessary electrical generation and transmission facilities are also permitted in this area. The approval of any new use, and the replacement or expansion of any existing use will be conditioned upon its demonstrated consistency with the adopted goals, objectives and policies of this plan, conformity with all prevailing environmental regulations and compatibility with objectives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

Concepts and Limitations of the Land Use Plan Map

The Land Use Plan map of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan provides the general land use framework indicating how, where and the extent to which land may be used between now and the year 2015. It also indicates locations where urban expansion is projected to be warranted between the years 2015 and 2025.

The LUP map is based on many considerations including existing development patterns, zoning, provision of public services and infrastructure, characteristics of both the man-made and natural environment, suitability of areas for developments, growth projections, programmed infrastructure and service improvements, as well as the goals, objectives and policies of the Plan Elements.

Concepts. Among the long-standing concepts embodied in Miami-Dade County's CDMP are the following:

1. Control the extent and phasing of urban development in order to coordinate development with the programmed provision of public services.
2. Preserve and conserve land with valuable environmental characteristics, recreation uses or scenic appeal.
3. Encourage development in areas most suitable due to soil conditions, water table level, vegetation type and degree of flood hazard. Restrict development in particularly sensitive and unique natural areas.
4. Maximize public ownership of beaches and shorelines within the Coastal Area to insure their preservation, conservation or public use.
5. Minimize consumption of energy for transportation purposes and the amount of air pollution from transportation sources by encouraging a more compact urban form.
6. Shape the pattern of urban development to maximize the efficiency of existing public facilities and support the introduction of new public facilities or services such as improved mass transit systems.
7. Preserve sound and stable residential neighborhoods.
8. Rejuvenate decayed areas by promoting redevelopment, rehabilitation, infilling and the development of activity centers containing a mixture of land uses.
9. Promote development of concentrated activity centers of different sizes and character to provide economies of scale and efficiencies of transportation and other services for both the public and private sectors.
10. Redirect higher density development towards activity centers or areas of high countywide accessibility.
11. Allocate suitable and sufficient sites for industrial and business districts to accommodate future employment needs.
12. Prohibit new residential development and other noise sensitive activities from locations near airport noise impact zones.
13. Avoid excessive scattering of industrial or commercial employment locations.
14. Encourage agriculture as a viable economic use of suitable lands.

Population Distribution. The concepts above have been considered not only as a basis for delineating areawide patterns of development, but also to develop a time-phased distribution of population within Miami-Dade County. Accordingly, the projected distribution of population for the years 2015 and 2025 (Figure 6) reflects the following factors:

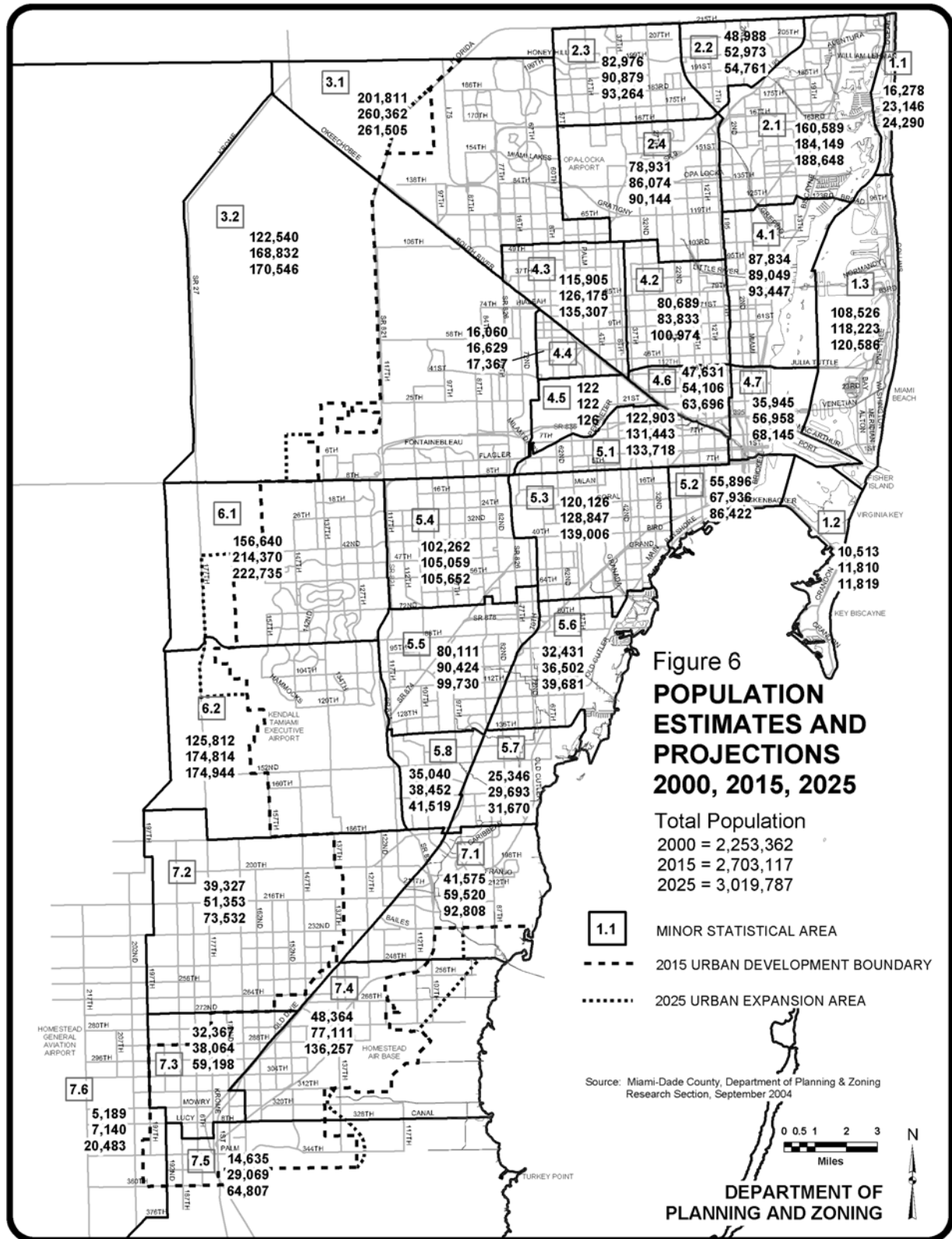
- Existing conditions (land uses; densities; compatibilities and conflicts in land uses; distribution of vacant land suitable or desirable for residential, commercial, or industrial development; and existing zoning);
- Emerging demographic and economic trends (housing markets, household sizes, limited redevelopment potential, property values and mobility patterns);
- Planning studies (municipal master plans, area studies and other special studies such as rapid transit station area plans); and
- Existing, programmed and planned public improvements (roads, sewers, water, fire protection, parks and schools).

The subarea populations shown on the Population Estimates and Projections map are those for which Miami-Dade County will strive to provide urban services. These numbers will be used by public agencies to plan for the range of public facilities and services including roads, parks, schools and sewers. The numbers reflect a middle course of action between planning for the minimum projected growth and planning for the maximum population projection.

Coordinated-Managed Growth. The Land Use Plan map, the Population Estimates and Projections map and this interpretive text all help translate the goals, objectives and policies of the Comprehensive Development Master Plan into a more specific course of action. They are intended to be used in directing public and private developmental activities. Actions that must be consistent with these maps and related text include functional service plans and amendments, capital improvement programs, public facilities site approvals, subdivision plat and zoning actions, and federal grant application reviews. Before any decision is made in connection with any of these or other developmental processes, a determination will be made as to the consistency of the proposed developmental action with the goals, objectives and policies of the CDMP, including the Land Use Plan map, the Estimated Population Distribution map, and this text. Proposed developmental actions and orders should be evaluated to determine the extent to which they are consistent with these Plan components which embody the essence of the County's development policy. Vested rights and legal non-conformity shall be given consideration in all determinations of developmental action or order approval. Developmental actions or orders that preceded the official adoption of this Plan shall not be deemed inconsistent with the Plan until so determined through one of the several developmental decision processes.

Critical in achieving the desired pattern of development is the adherence to the 2015 Urban Development Boundary (UDB) and 2025 Urban Expansion Area (UEA) Boundary. Given the fundamental influences of infrastructure and service availability on land markets and development activities, the CDMP has since its inception provided that the UDB serve as an envelope within which public expenditures for urban infrastructure will be confined. In this regard the UDB serves as an urban services boundary in addition to a land use boundary.

Consistency with the CDMP will ensure that the actions of one single-purpose agency does not foster development that could cause other agencies to subsequently respond in kind and



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provide facilities in unanticipated locations. Such uncoordinated single-purpose decision making can be fiscally damaging to government and can undermine other comprehensive plan objectives.

Plan Amendments. It is recognized that the development capacity of the area within the UDB and UEA will vary with time. Part of the supply will be utilized and additional supply will be added from time-to-time through the approval of Plan amendments. Some land will be built upon at densities which are higher than permitted by existing zoning because rezonings will occur in the future, and some development will occur at densities lower than that permitted by zoning. Moreover, impediments can arise to the maximum utilization of all lands within the boundaries. In some urbanized areas, it may be difficult to acquire sufficiently large parcels of land. In other areas, neighborhood opposition to proposed developments could alter the assumed density or character of a particular area. Because the development capacity of the LUP map fluctuates with time, it will be reevaluated on a periodic basis as part of the Plan review and amendment process.

Limitations. The Comprehensive Plan, as used in large metropolitan areas, establishes broad parameters within which the various levels of government can conduct detailed land use planning and zoning activities, and functional planning and programming of urban infrastructure and services. It also serves the full range of other governmental planning and programming activities which required information about the location and extent of future population growth and land use. Among the primary purposes for adopting the long-range Land Use Plan map are to establish continuity and certainty as bases for individual, small-scale land use decisions in both the public and private sectors, and to enable coordinated, timely, cost-effective expansion, maintenance and utilization of the full range of urban facilities and services. The existence of an adopted comprehensive plan does not obviate the need to conduct detailed examinations of localized land use and service conditions. Nor does the Comprehensive Plan substitute for detailed functional plans for infrastructure such as roadways, water and sewer facilities.

Given the range and scope of the comprehensive plan elements as now required in Florida, the extent and complexity of development patterns in Miami-Dade County, the long-range time horizons of the plan and the legal status of the comprehensive plan, it is critical to maintain viable programs to augment the CDMP. The Land Use Plan map of the CDMP is a framework indicating the large-scale pattern of future land use in the metropolitan area. The land use pattern indicated on the Plan map is very detailed from a countywide perspective. However, the map does not specifically depict each and every individual occurrence of land use and zoning throughout the hundreds of neighborhoods which comprise Miami-Dade County; each of the land use categories indicated on the LUP map contains dominant uses, ancillary uses and secondary uses.

The land use categories used on the LUP map are necessarily broad, and there are numerous instances where existing uses and parcels zoned for a particular use, are not specifically depicted on the Land Use Plan map. This is due largely to graphic limitations. Miami-Dade County encompasses more than 1,549,792 acres (2,420 square miles) of land and water, of

which about 362,464 acres (510.1 square miles) were developed for urban or agricultural uses in 2003. In addition, the mixing of uses in individual buildings, projects and neighborhoods is common in many parts of the urban area, and is becoming a more widely accepted land use practice when compatible uses are properly integrated through the use of sound land use, planning and design principles. Accordingly, a countywide land use plan map for an area the size of Miami-Dade County cannot readily depict specific land use, let alone parcel-specific density or intensity of use, without broadly defining the land use categories and areas. Generally, the smallest area distinguished on the LUP map is 5 acres (smaller existing use-areas are not specifically shown). Each of the land use categories utilized on the LUP map also provides for the inclusion of some other uses under certain conditions.

Other Land Uses Not Addressed. Certain uses are not authorized under any LUP map category, including many of the uses listed as "unusual uses" in the zoning code. Uses not authorized in any LUP map category may be requested and approved in any LUP category that authorizes uses substantially similar to the requested use. Such approval may be granted only if the requested use is consistent with the objectives and policies of this Plan, and provided that the use would be compatible and would not have an unfavorable effect on the surrounding area: by causing an undue burden on transportation facilities including roadways and mass transit or other utilities and services including water, sewer, drainage, fire, rescue, police and schools; by providing inadequate off-street parking, service or loading areas; by maintaining operating hours, outdoor lighting or signage out of character with the neighborhood; by creating traffic, noise, odor, dust or glare out of character with the neighborhood; by posing a threat to the natural environment including air, water and living resources; or where the character of the buildings, including height, bulk, scale, floor area ratio or design would detrimentally impact the surrounding area. However, this provision does not authorize such uses in Environmental Protection Areas designated in this Element.

Uses and Zoning Not Specifically Depicted on the LUP Map. Within each map category numerous land uses, zoning classifications and housing types may occur. Many existing uses and zoning classifications are not specifically depicted on the Plan map. This is due largely to the scale and appropriate specificity of the countywide LUP map, graphic limitations, and provisions for a variety of uses to occur in each LUP map category. In general, 5 acres is the smallest site depicted on the LUP map, and smaller existing sites are not shown. All existing lawful uses and zoning are deemed to be consistent with this Plan unless such a use or zoning (a) is found through a subsequent planning study, as provided in Policy LU-4E, to be inconsistent with the criteria set forth below; and (b) the implementation of such a finding will not result in a temporary or permanent taking or in the abrogation of vested rights as determined by the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The criteria for determining that an existing use or zoning is inconsistent with the plan are as follows: 1) Such use or zoning does not conform with the conditions, criteria or standards for approval of such a use or zoning in the applicable LUP map category; and 2) The use or zoning is or would be incompatible or has, or would have, an unfavorable effect on the surrounding area: by causing an undue burden on transportation facilities including roadways and mass transit or other utilities and services including water, sewer, drainage, fire, rescue, police and schools; by providing inadequate off-street parking, service or loading areas; by maintaining

operating hours, outdoor lighting or signage out of character with the neighborhood; by creating traffic, noise, odor, dust or glare out of character with the neighborhood; by posing a threat to the natural environment including air, water and living resources; or where the character of the buildings, including height, bulk, scale, floor area ratio or design would detrimentally impact the surrounding area. Also deemed to be consistent with this Plan are uses and zoning which have been approved by a final judicial decree which has declared this Plan to be invalid or unconstitutional as applied to a specific piece of property. The presence of an existing use or zoning will not prevent the County from initiating action to change zoning in furtherance of the Plan map, objectives or policies where the foregoing criteria are met. The limitations outlined in this paragraph pertain to existing zoning and uses. All approval of new land uses must be consistent with the LUP map and the specific land use provisions of the various LUP map categories, and the objectives and policies of this Plan. However, changes may be approved to lawful uses and zoning not depicted which would make the use or zoning substantially more consistent with the Plan, and in particular the Land Use Element, than the existing use or zoning.

Wellfield Areas. Miami-Dade County's sole source of drinking water is the Biscayne Aquifer which is discussed in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage Element of the Plan. Many characteristics of the Aquifer make it highly vulnerable to contamination from activities on the land surface. Land uses and activities near and upgradient from wellfields directly impact the quality of water ultimately withdrawn from the wells.

Numerous public water supply wellfields exist throughout Miami-Dade County, and new ones will be constructed in the future. Only the largest existing wellfields are depicted on the Land Use Plan map. However, the County restricts land use within portions of cones of influence of all public water supply wellfields to minimize the threat of water pollution. Moreover, newly constructed and future regional wellfields warrant greater and more extensive protection for two reasons. First, the opportunity still exists to maintain pristine water quality around the new and future wellfields because the land within the full extent of their cones of influence is largely undeveloped. Secondly, if these become contaminated there are no alternative sites for the construction of comparable high-capacity wellfields.

In order that the new and future regional water supply wellfields constructed in predominantly undeveloped areas will remain free from contamination, land use and development within and upgradient from the full extent of their cones of influence must be carefully controlled to limit land uses to those which will pose no threat to water quality. County regulations governing land use and development within the full extent of the cones of influence are necessary to provide desirable levels of protection to new and future wellfields. Future wellfields and their protection areas are identified on Figure 8 in the following section of this Element. The protection area boundaries identified in this Plan will be periodically reviewed and revised, when appropriate, to maintain consistency with the wellfield protection area boundaries established pursuant to Chapter 24 of the Miami-Dade County Code. The County's wellfield protection regulations and protection area boundary maps must be consulted when applying or interpreting the Land Use Plan map as it relates to wellfield protection areas.

Wetland Areas. As discussed throughout the CDMP, extensive areas of Miami-Dade County are wetlands whose development is regulated pursuant to federal, State, and County environmental laws. Most of these areas are intentionally left outside the planned Urban Development Boundary (UDB). However, there are some exceptions. Whether or not included inside the UDB, all wetlands shall continue to be governed by applicable environmental laws. Moreover, where wetland basin plans were adopted pursuant to policies of the CDMP, all development shall conform with provisions of the adopted basin plan applicable to the area, as well as other applicable laws and regulations.

Ultimate Development Area. The 2015 and 2025 Land Use Plan map identifies the areas that will be urbanized within those time frames. As indicated throughout this Plan, these are the areas of the County where resources should be directed for the construction and maintenance of urban infrastructure and provision of services. Growth of Miami-Dade County, however, is not projected to cease after the year 2025. Therefore, prudent long-term planning for infrastructure may need to anticipate locations for possible future extension. For example, it may be desirable to reserve rights-of-way in certain growth corridors as well as on section, half-section, and quarter-section lines, well in advance of need so that opportunities to eventually provide necessary roadways are not irrevocably lost.

It is difficult to specify where and how much of Miami-Dade County's total area may ultimately be converted to urban development. This is due to uncertainty regarding long-term rates of population and economic growth; housing and community preferences; availability and price of energy, water, agricultural and mineral resources; and State, federal and international influences. It is reasonably safe to assume, however, that the areas least suitable for urban development today will remain least suitable in the future. These areas include the remaining high-quality coastal and Everglades wetland areas in the County, and the Northwest Wellfield protection area. The areas more appropriate for, and more likely to experience sustained urban pressure are the heavily impacted, partially drained wetlands in the Biscayne-Snake Creek and Bird-Trail Canal Basins, the agricultural areas of southwestern and southeast Miami-Dade, and the impacted wetlands south of Homestead and Florida City. When the need for additional urban expansion is demonstrated after the year 2025, such expansion should be carefully managed to minimize the loss of agricultural land and to maximize the economic life of that valuable industry. Accordingly, urban expansion after the year 2025 in the South Dade area should be managed to progress westerly from the Metrozoo area to Krome Avenue north of Eureka Drive, and on the west side of the US 1 corridor southerly to Homestead only when the clear need is demonstrated.

Development-inducing infrastructure shall not be built by the year 2015 in areas designated Agriculture or Open Land. The 2025 Urban Expansion Area is projected for development by the year 2025 contingent upon those areas being brought into the UDB by plan amendment; therefore, facilities may be planned for provision to those areas during the long term.

Reservation of corridors and right-of-way outside of the 2015 UDB and 2025 UEA is not precluded by the adoption of this Plan. This may be necessary to ensure that a strategic grid pattern and supplemental corridors are available for future highway, transit or other infrastructure. However, the planning, design, programming and financing of infrastructure

shall be focused on the area within the UDB and UEA. Until the needs of these areas have been satisfactorily met, financial resources shall not be diverted to non-urban areas. Moreover, Environmental Protection areas designated by this plan shall be specifically avoided in all planning and design of development-inducing infrastructure and services.

Future Historic and Natural Resources

In addition to the presentation of future land use expressed on the Land Use Plan (LUP) map for 2015 and 2025 and described in the previous text, certain future historical and environmental resources are also identified herein. Rather than attempt to map these features on the Land Use Plan map, they are presented separately to preserve the legibility of the LUP map. Included with these maps is a brief description of the resources. The reader is referred to the *Support Components* and Evaluation and Appraisal Report addressing this Element, and to the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage, and Coastal Management Elements, for complete background information.

Future Historic Districts and Archaeological Zones

Figure 7 shows the historic districts, archaeological districts and historic cemeteries that are recognized by the Miami-Dade Office of Historic Preservation as meriting local designation. Many of these districts and zones may also be candidates for submission to the National Register of Historic Places. National Register sites and municipal designations are not shown. Locations of probable archaeological sites are included on the State Master File. Permanent records and additional background material on these districts, zones and sites are kept in Miami-Dade County's Office of Historic Preservation.

Future Natural Resources

Map series Figures 8 through 14 identify certain future natural resources in Miami-Dade County. Background information on topography, soils, mineral resources, freshwater wetlands, lakes, floodplains, flood prone areas, public wellfields and cones of influence is found in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage Element. Additional information on public wellfields and activities permitted within cones of influence is presented in the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Element. Background information on bays, estuaries, rivers, harbors, beaches and shores, coastal wetlands, and areas subject to coastal flooding is contained in the Coastal Management Element.

The *Land Use Element Support Components* report and Evaluation and Appraisal Report address existing topography, soils, wetland conditions and functions, historic resources in undeveloped areas of the County, and development in floodplains. The information that is summarized below, together with the extensive information contained in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage, and Coastal Management Elements, are reflected in the delineation of Future Open Land and Environmental Protection Sub-areas as shown on Figures 4 and 5.

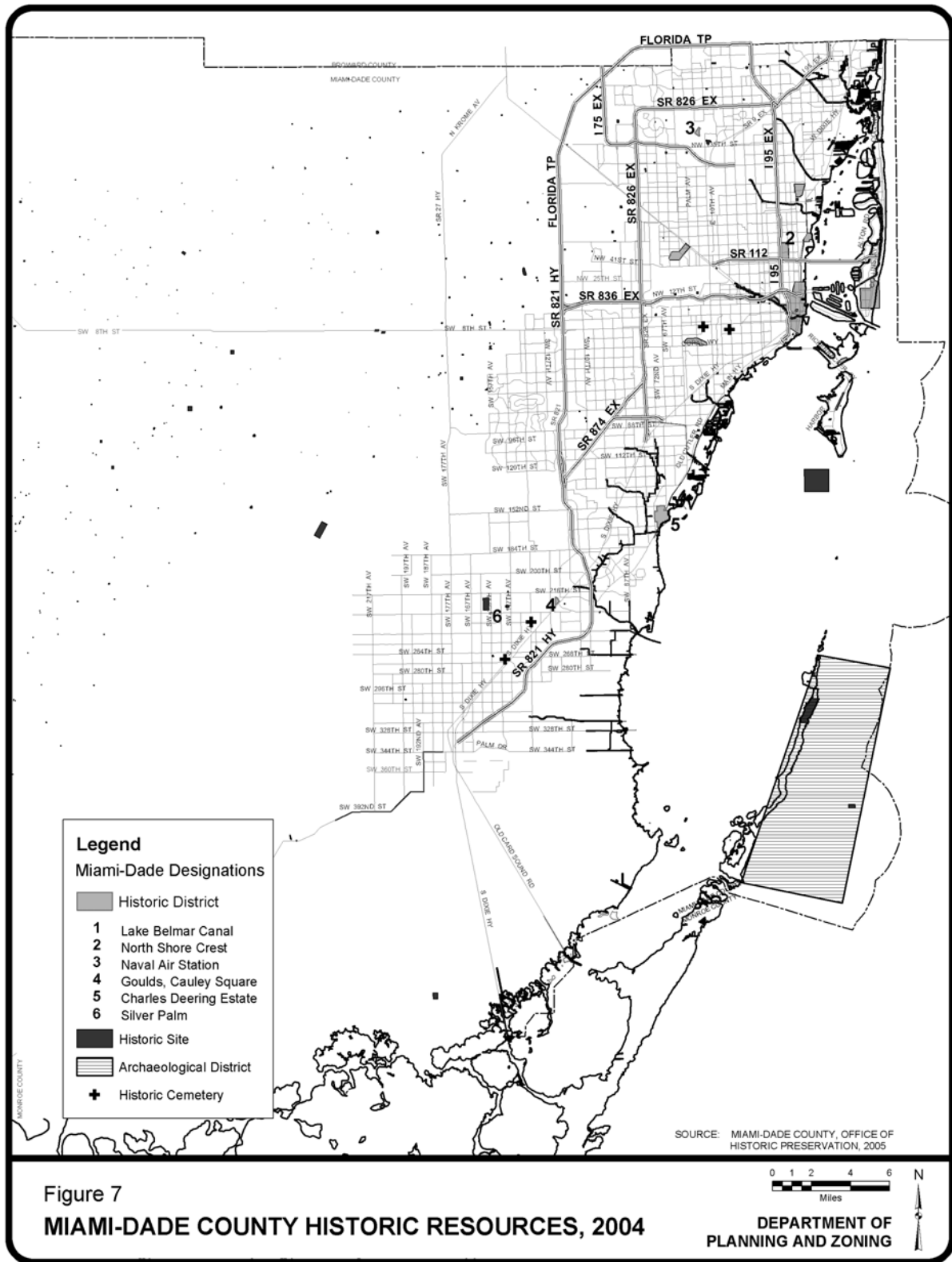


Figure 7
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES, 2004

Future Waterwells and Cones of Influence. The public water supply wellfields in Miami-Dade County that are expected to be operational in the year 2015 and their respective protection area boundaries are shown on Figure 8. The protection area boundaries identified herein will be periodically reviewed and revised, when appropriate, to maintain consistency with wellfield protection area boundaries established pursuant to Chapter 24 of the Miami-Dade County Code. Also included on this figure are the general locations of two future wellfield study areas. One future wellfield study area is located in south Miami-Dade County and the other is in northwest Miami-Dade. Miami-Dade County shall continue to maintain and enforce its wellfield protection regulations which restrict the use, handling, storage, transport or disposal of hazardous materials; excavations; and non-residential uses served by septic tanks.

Beaches, Shores, Estuaries, Rivers, Bays, Lakes and Harbors. Figure 9 shows these natural features. The only lakes shown on this figure are the natural lakes that occur within Everglades National Park. Many of the former rock pits and lakes that have been dredged to provide fill during developments appear on the LUP map (or will appear on the color version printed after readoption of the Plan). Estuaries have not been mapped, per se, because their extent varies depending on the season and the amount of rainfall. In the very flat coastal glades in south Miami-Dade County, the freshwater/saltwater ecotone may migrate as much as a mile or more landward or bayward depending upon antecedent climatic conditions. Extensive background information on these resources is presented in the Coastal Management Element.

Floodplains. As shown on Figure 10, a very large percentage of the land within Miami-Dade County is considered to be a floodplain, or Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). An SFHA is defined as an area that will flood to varying depths during the 100-year flood, which is defined as an event that has a 1% chance to occur in any one year. Within the urban area, all of the former sloughs and transverse glades and the barrier islands are floodplains or SFHAs under this definition. For purposes of clarification, an additional map is presented to show the areas that are subject to coastal flooding during hurricanes of varying intensity (Figure 11). Due to issues such as continued development and improvements to the water management system in the County, there have been changes to the floodplains and areas subject to coastal flooding. These changes will be reflected in a flood insurance re-study and attendant revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps that are expected to be published in 2005. Another factor is that, by the year 2015 the area subject to coastal flooding may increase if current predictions about the rate of sea level rise prove to be true. Additional information on floodplains and drainage issues is presented in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage Element and its Evaluation and Appraisal Report.

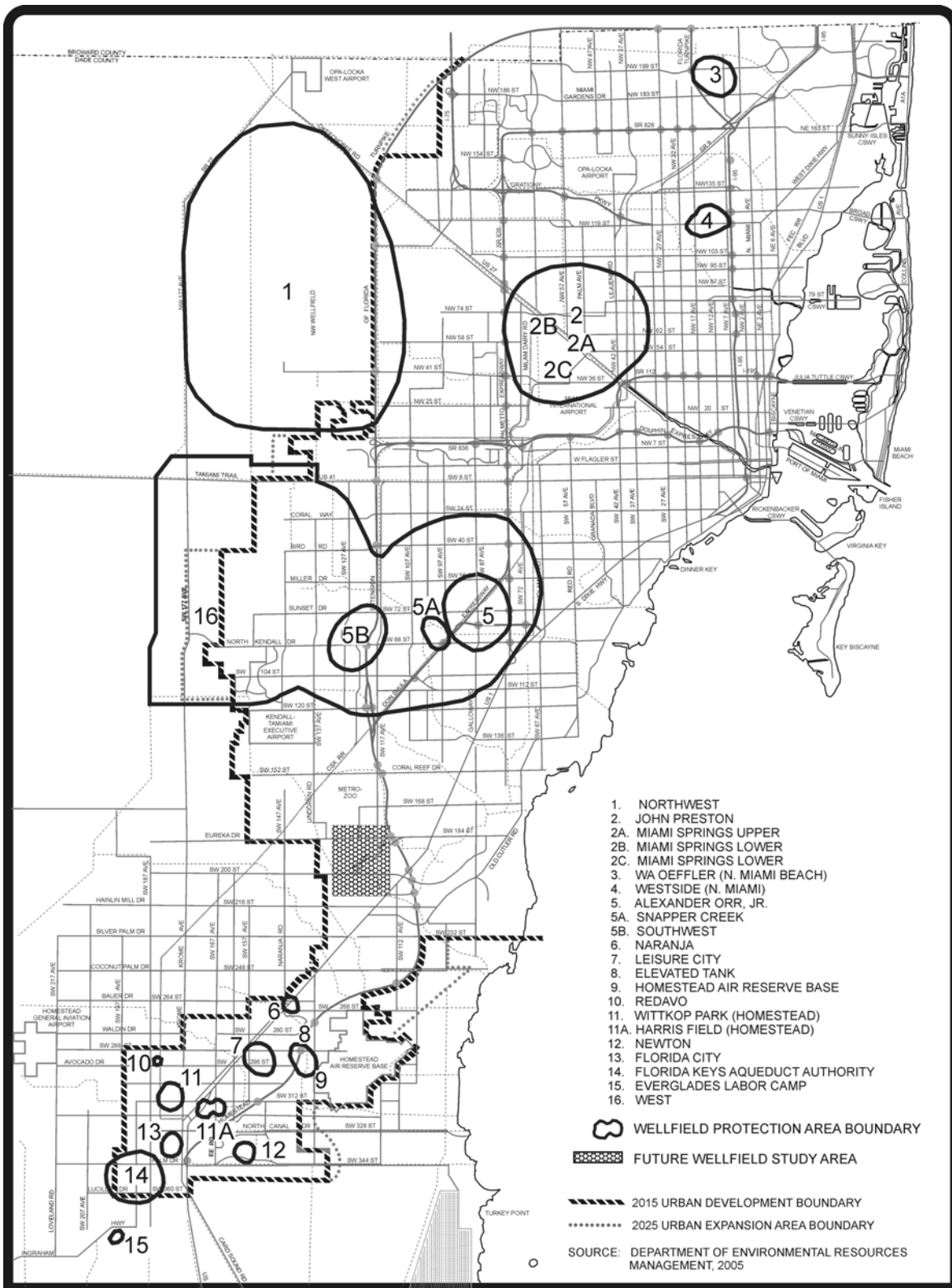
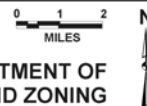


Figure 8
WELLFIELD PROTECTION AREAS



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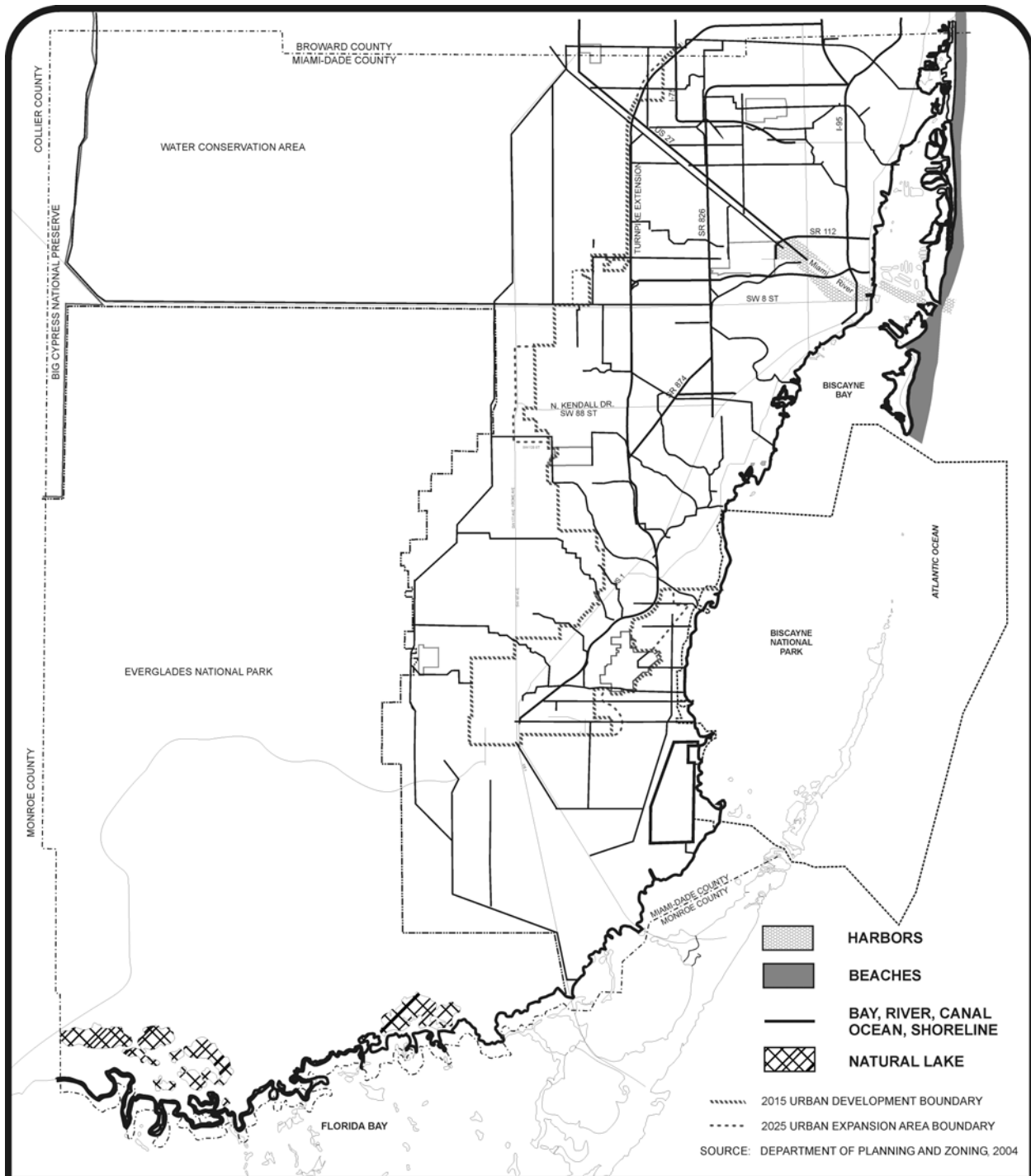


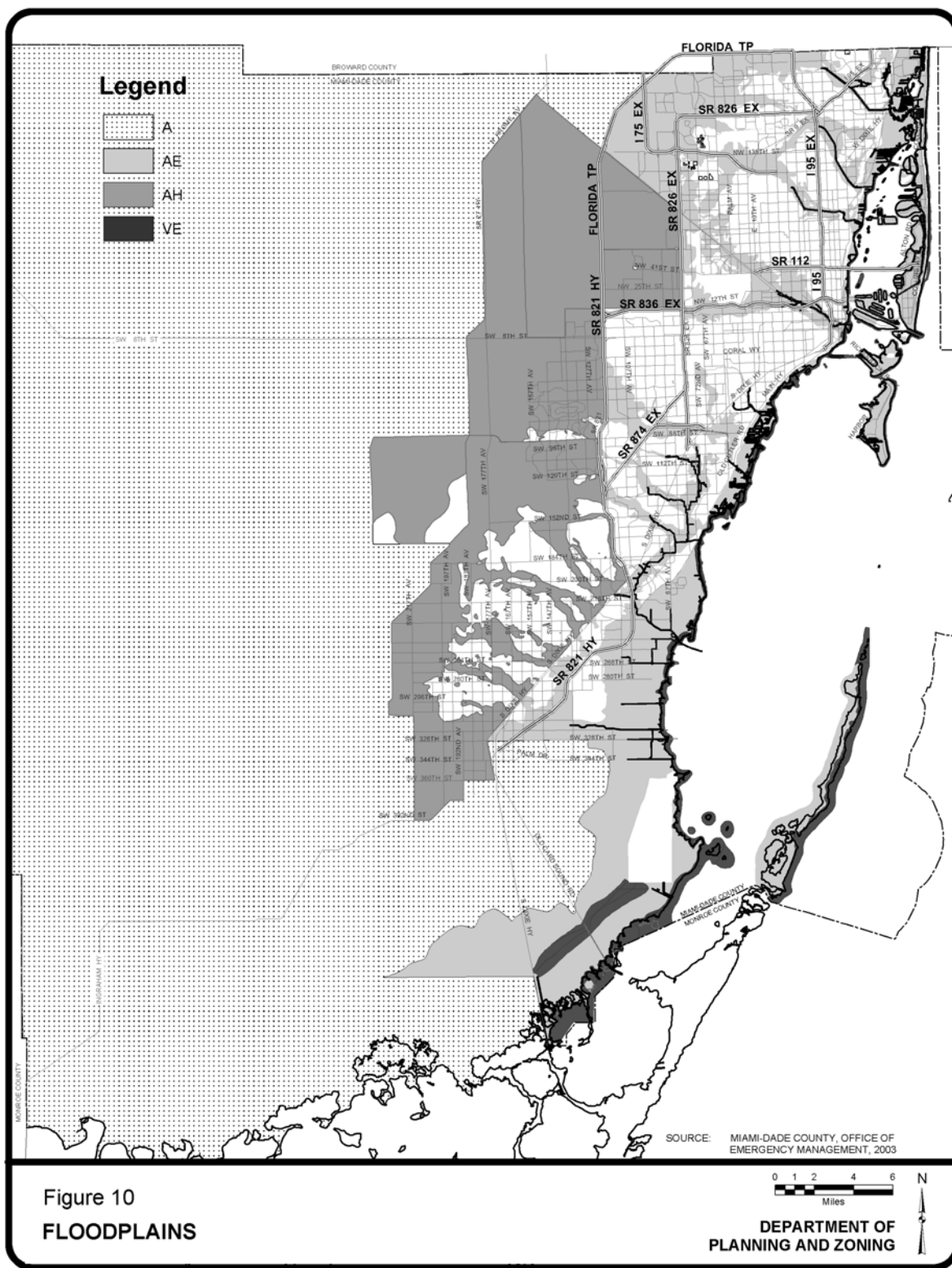
Figure 9

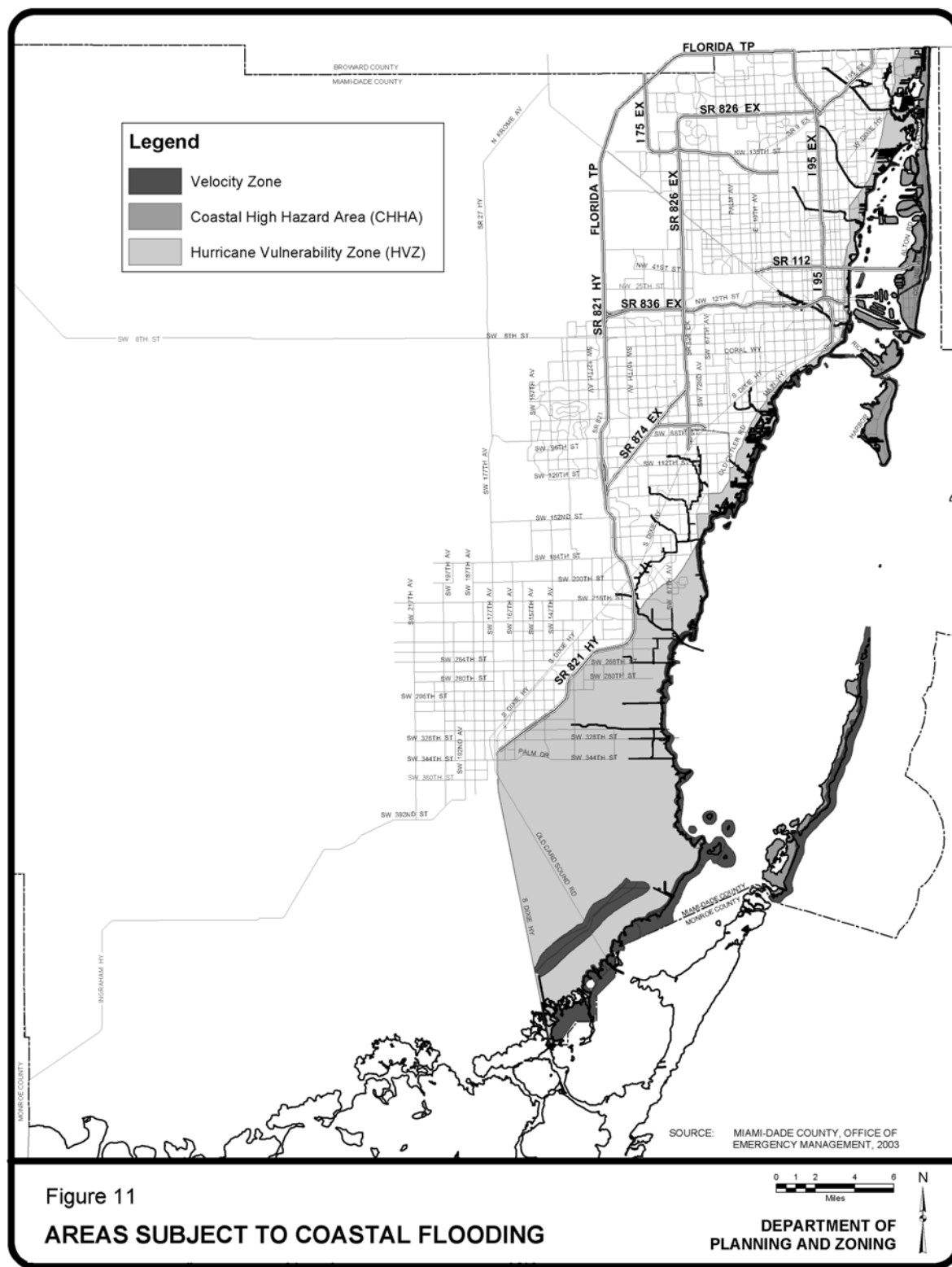
BAYS, RIVERS, LAKES, HARBORS & BEACHES

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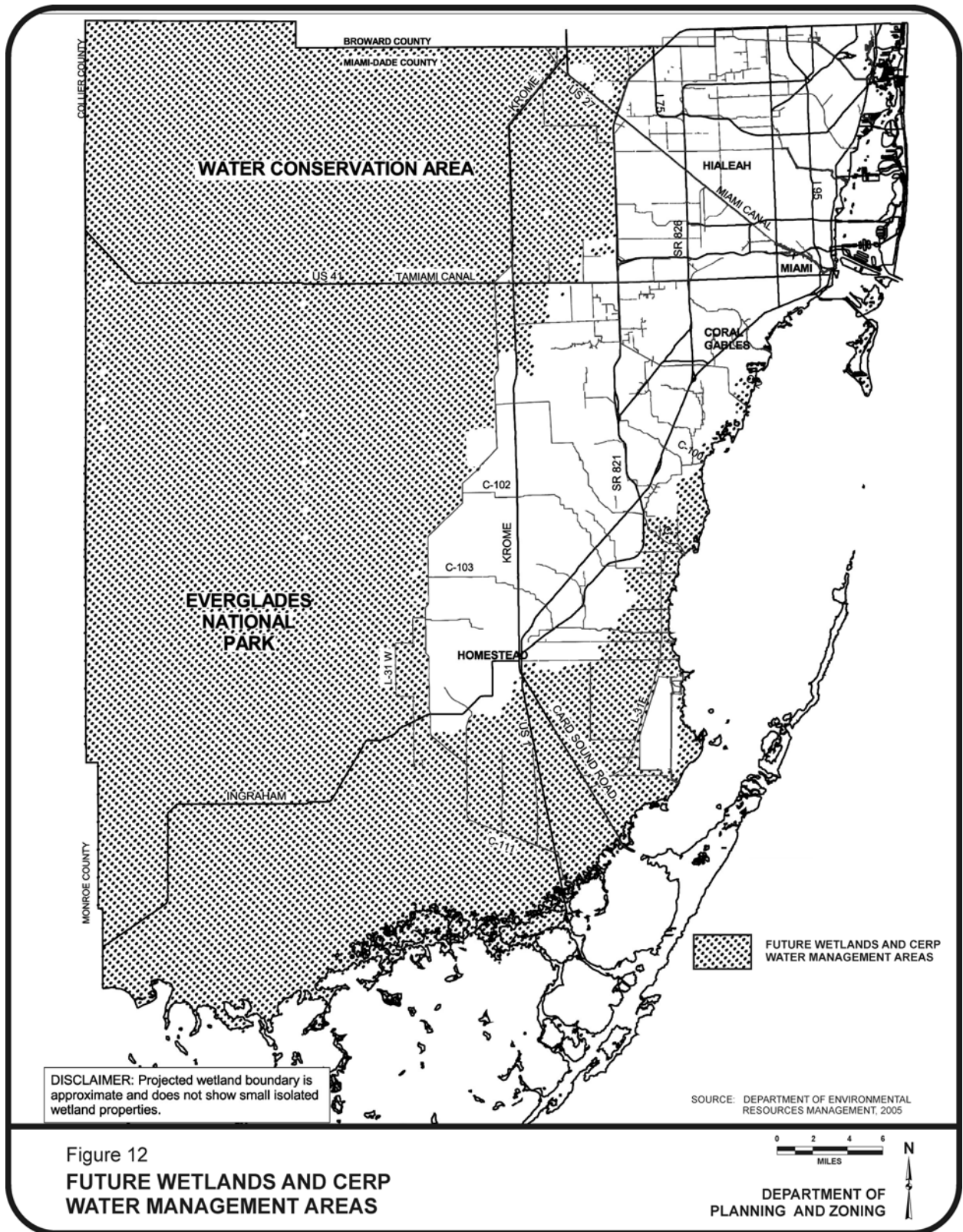


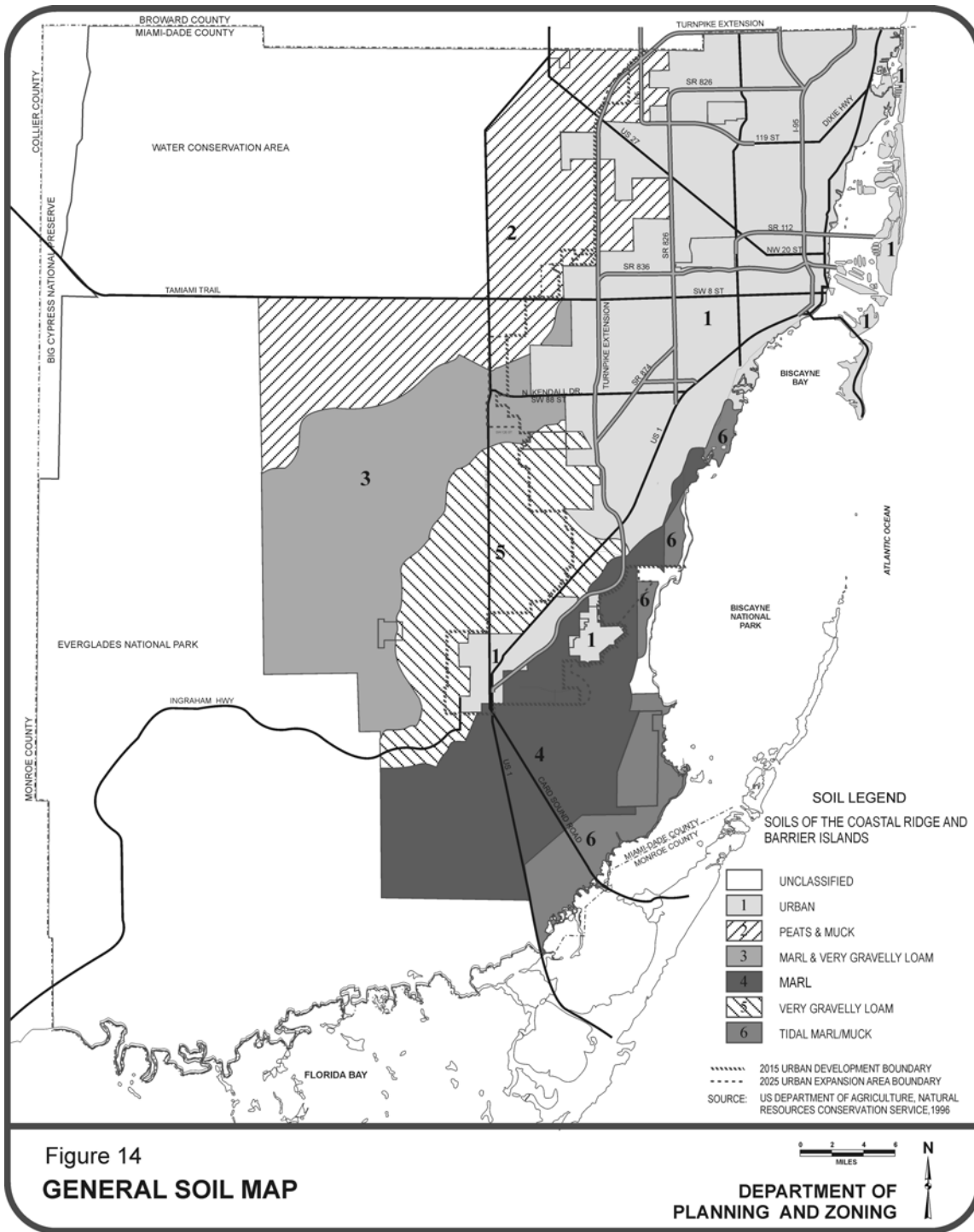
Figure 12
**FUTURE WETLANDS AND CERP
 WATER MANAGEMENT AREAS**

Wetlands. Future Wetlands and CERP Water Management Areas are shown on Figure 12. Extensive information on these systems is presented in the Conservation, Aquifer Recharge and Drainage Element, and the Coastal Management Element, and the Evaluation and Appraisal Reports addressing those elements. There are several factors that will determine the future of the wetland communities in Miami-Dade County. Among the most important will be the ability of Miami-Dade County and the South Florida Water Management District to maintain more natural water table levels or hydroperiods in these areas; the ability of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to recreate a more natural flow of water into the NE Shark River Slough, Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park; the speed with which biological or other controls for the spread of *Melaleuca* can be found, tested and implemented; and the commitment to wetland management and restoration efforts including the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. The future wetland areas designated as publicly owned and managed are areas that are in public acquisition programs. The areas designated as privately owned are not in public acquisition programs but which possessed wetland qualities and functions and which could warrant public acquisition as part of ecosystem or water supply protection, restoration and management programs.

Mineral Resources. Most of Miami-Dade County is underlain by Miami limestone. The general extent of Miami Limestone and mineral extraction areas is shown on Figure 13. The Conservation Element presents the locations of existing rock quarries in Miami-Dade County. The "lake belt" region in northwestern Miami-Dade north of Tamiami Trail, west of the turnpike extension, including the NW Wellfield Area, is expected to continue to be the area of greatest mineral extraction activity in the County through the year 2015.

Soils. The soils that overlay the limestone in the County can generally be grouped into five broad categories: peats and mucks, marls, sands, rocky lands and man-made soils. These are shown on Figure 14. In general, the peats and mucks are unsuitable foundations for buildings or roadways and must be removed prior to development. Marls also frequently require special treatment prior to construction. This map presents a very generalized summary of soils in the County. Detailed soil surveys of Miami-Dade County produced by the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, should be consulted for more specific information.

Water Resource Summary. Water resource characteristics and the County's subtle variations in topography are significant features which must be recognized in the formulation of land use, as well as water supply and management policies and plans, for Miami-Dade County. The water resource summary map presented at the conclusion of this section (Figure 15) is a composite of water resource features presented on previous maps in this series and discussed at length in the Conservation and Potable Water Element Support Documents and Evaluation and Appraisal Reports. The Major Canals presented are primary canals and levees of the South Florida Water Management District and significant secondary canals of the County. These serve both to recharge the aquifer at the coast and at water supply wellfields, and to provide flood protection by draining surplus stormwater to tide. The Wellfield Protection Areas were described in a preceding paragraph. The Aquifer Recharge Areas depicted include the Everglades, Everglades buffer areas and other areas which are poorly drained by the canal system and which provide prolonged recharge of the Biscayne Aquifer after rainfall events. The Extent of Saltwater



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Intrusion into the Biscayne Aquifer is shown by a line near the coast as a reminder that it is essential to maintain water table elevations in the Biscayne Aquifer that are high enough to prevent further contamination by encroachment of denser saltwater. Adequate freshwater levels must be maintained both at the coast and inland to continually replenish freshwater which flows through the transmissive aquifer and canals to the coast. Excessive drainage of inland areas would jeopardize invaluable public and private water supplies, as well as regional ecological systems.

Land Use Monitoring Program and Evaluation and Appraisal Reporting Procedures

In order to enable the preparation of periodic Evaluation and Appraisal Reports (EARs) as required by Section 163.3191, *Florida Statutes* (F.S.), the Minimum Criteria Rule (Rule 9J-5, *Florida Administrative Code* [F.A.C.]) requires that local comprehensive plans contain adopted procedures for monitoring and evaluating the Plan and its implementation (Sections 9J-5.005[1][c][5], and 9J-5.005[7], F.A.C). In addition, successful implementation of level of service standards, and requirements that services be available at the time of development, also require the maintenance of monitoring and reporting programs.

This section outlines Miami-Dade County's monitoring program pertinent to the objectives, policies and parameters referenced in the Land Use Element. It should be understood that the County's programs will be refined over time as more experience is gained. The administrative requirements for monitoring and preparation of the EAR as outlined in Section 9J-5.005[7], F.A.C., are also included here. They are not repeated in the other Elements to avoid redundancy. However, the reader is referred to the other Plan Elements for a presentation of the substantive monitoring requirements of those Elements.

The first section of this presentation relates directly to the Objectives of the Land Use Element. Here, "measures" are listed which will be monitored to enable determinations to be made regarding progress in achieving the Element's twelve Objectives. These "measures" are variables which are referenced directly in an Objective or one or more of the policies listed under the Objective, or which closely relate and are valid measurable indicators of progress toward the Objective. Other basic characteristics of the monitoring activity are also noted, such as the agencies involved and frequency of reporting. Next, a synopsis of Miami-Dade County's procedures for formulating EARs is presented.

Measures to be Monitored

Objective LU-1.

- A. Acreage of subdivisions not contiguous to other urban development; and population density within the UDB of the LUP map. These measurements shall be made by the Department of Planning and Zoning immediately preceding preparation of the EAR.

- B. Residential dwelling units and non-residential square footage permitted, or for which certificates of occupancy (COs) have been issued (for new uses and rehabilitation) in unincorporated Commission District (CD) Areas. This information will be compiled annually by the Department of Planning and Zoning from the computerized permitting file. The cumulative totals will be reported in the subsequent EAR.
- C. Numbers and dollar value of public facility improvements in the CD Areas. The Department of Planning and Zoning will acquire this information annually from the Miami-Dade County Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) and shall report cumulative totals in the EAR.
- D. Number of new or revised ordinances and programs established to promote improved design of neighborhoods, developments and buildings in unincorporated Miami-Dade County.

Objective LU-2

The extent of area experiencing conditions below minimum adopted LOS, at LOS, and substantially above minimum LOS will be monitored by the Department of Planning and Zoning and reported in the EAR for each service addressed in the CDMP.

Objective LU-3

Number of dwelling units and other structures approved which are inconsistent with Miami-Dade County's East Everglades Zoning Overlay regulation (Chapter 33-B, Code of Miami-Dade County), and any CDMP amendments that would increase the allowable number of dwelling units or nonresidential floor area in the environmentally sensitive areas and the coastal barrier islands. Any such approvals shall be logged by the Department of Planning and Zoning and reported in the EAR.

Objectives LU-4 and LU-5

The number of rezoning applications filed by the Department of Planning and Zoning and approved by the Board of County Commissioners to bring preexisting zoning into closer uniformity with the LUP map shall be logged by the Department of Planning and Zoning and reported in the EAR.

Objective LU-6

The number of new listings on the National Register, and the number of locally designated historic and archaeological sites, districts and zones shall be compiled by the Office of Historic Preservation and shall be reported by the Department of Planning and Zoning in the EAR.

Objective LU-7

The number of new development or redevelopment projects applied for and approved under a TOD plan, consistent with appropriate development standards as required in Objective LU-7 and associated policies, shall be documented and analyzed every 5 years. The monitoring shall include the ridership of the transit system in relation to the economy of the areas around the stations. The Department of Planning and Zoning shall conduct the analysis to the extent possible and report findings in the subsequent EAR.

Objective LU-8

The supply and consumption rates of residential, commercial and industrial land shall be analyzed by the Department of Planning and Zoning for compliance with Objective LU-8 and findings will be reported in the subsequent EAR.

Objective LU-9

The number of significant regulatory revisions made, consistent with CDMP, will be annually logged by the Department of Planning and Zoning and reported in the subsequent EAR.

LU-Objective LU-10

- A. Revisions to the Florida Building Code, Miami-Dade Zoning Code, and other County development regulations which encourage, support, or require energy conservation will be compiled annually by the Department of Planning and Zoning and reported in the subsequent EAR.
- B. Average electrical power consumption per capita and per residential unit will be compared to historical rates. This information will be compiled annually by the Department of Planning and Zoning from data supplied by Florida Power and Light and reported in the subsequent EAR.
- C. Ridership rates per 1,000 persons on mass transit (Metrorail, Metromover, and MDTA buses) will be compared to historical rates on an annual basis. Ridership data is monitored and evaluated by the Miami-Dade Transit Agency. The most recent estimates of population prepared by the Department of Planning and Zoning will be used to determine ridership rates, and will be reported in the subsequent EAR.

Objective LU-11

The reports documenting the methodology for determining the identification of sites suitable for redevelopment potential as referenced in Policy LU-11A will serve as the monitoring measure for this Objective.

Objective LU-12

The reports that identify sites which might be suitable for infill housing and infrastructure assessment as referenced in Policy LU-12A will serve as the monitoring measure.

EAR Contents and Formulation Procedure

The Miami-Dade County 2003 EAR contains a summary audit of the progress that has been made in implementing the county's CDMP since the 1995 EAR. The EAR identifies changes that should be made in the plan in response to an evaluation of the successes and failures that have been experienced in implementing the CDMP, to changing trends and conditions that affect the county, and to changing state and regional growth management policies.

With assistance from and due consultations and coordinations with state and regional agencies, county municipalities, various interest groups and the public through several workshops, and special meetings, including agency scoping meetings, the County's 2003 EAR focuses on evaluation of certain identified major issues and other issues/special topics, including statutory requirements, which were agreed upon in a Letter of Understanding from the Department of Community Affairs dated January 23, 2003. Generally, the EAR covers county-wide assessment as required in Chapter 163.3191(2)(a-m), F.S., which include:

1. Population growth and changes in land area;
2. The location of existing development in relation to the location of development as anticipated in the CDMP;
3. The extent of vacant and undevelopable land;
4. The financial feasibility of providing needed infrastructure to achieve and maintain adopted level of service standards and sustain concurrency through capital improvements, as well as the ability to address infrastructure backlogs and meet the demands of growth of public services and facilities;
5. A brief assessment of successes and shortcomings related to each element;
6. Relevant changes in growth management laws;
7. A summary of public participation activities in preparing the report;
8. The identification of major issues;
9. An assessment of whether CDMP objectives within each element, as they relate to major issues, have been achieved, and whether unforeseen and unanticipated changes in circumstances have resulted in problems and opportunities with respect to the major issues;
10. The actions or corrective measures, including plan amendments that are anticipated to address the major Issues identified and analyzed in the report;
11. An assessment of the success or failure of coordinating future land uses and residential development with the capacity of existing and planned schools, establishing with the school board appropriate population projections; and

- coordinating the planning and siting of new schools;
12. An assessment of the CDMP with respect to the South Florida Water Management District Plan, covering at least a 10-year period for building water supply facilities; and
 13. An evaluation of whether any past reduction in land use density within the coastal high hazard area impairs property rights of current residents when redevelopment occurs.

The 2003 EAR addresses the above-listed requirements under four chapters as follows: Chapter 1 contains an “Evaluation of Major CDMP Issues” evaluating five issues as agreed by the County and DCA. Chapter 2 contains an “Assessment of the CDMP Elements” evaluating each of the ten adopted elements of the CDMP from Land Use through Education Elements. Chapter 3 contains “Assessment of Special Topics” covering four additional requirement of Chapter 163.3.91, F.S., which are not covered under the major issues. Chapter 4 contains “Conclusions and Proposed Revisions” summarizing all conclusions and proposed revisions to the CDMP whether the revision originated from a major issue, an evaluation of the CDMP elements, or an evaluation of an additional requirement.

The EAR contains a schedule for adoption of the proposed EAR-based amendments as one submittal within 18 months after the EAR is determined to be sufficient by DCA. Pursuant to Chapter 163.3191 (10), F.S., DCA may grant a 6-month extension for the adoption of EAR-based amendments if the request is justified by good and sufficient cause as determined by the agency. Furthermore, an additional extension may also be granted if the request will result in greater coordination between transportation and land use, for the purposes of improving Florida’s transportation system as determined by DCA in coordination with the MPO program.

The activities to prepare the EAR commenced approximately ten months prior to the date established in Chapter 2-116, Code of Miami-Dade County as the deadline for its publication. The following activities took place:

- Planning staff compiled information "measured" and "monitored". Information was tabulated, analyzed and summarized. Findings were drafted, conclusions drawn, and proposals drafted for review by other County agencies.
- Draft report was circulated to affected County agencies and any independent service providers for comment and recommendation.
- Revised draft EAR was distributed to the public. Advertised public workshops were conducted to solicit public input, response and recommendations. Meetings were held with the municipalities to solicit their input; and voluntary scoping meetings were held with state and regional agencies (SFRPC and SFWMD) to solicit their input and coordinate and assemble data and resources for the preparation of the EAR.
- Proposed EAR was transmitted to the Planning Advisory Board (Local Planning Agency), County Manager and Board of County Commissioners.

- The Planning Advisory Board held a hearing on the proposed EAR and made recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.
- The Board of County Commissioners took action to adopt the EAR with or without changes, or to reject it within 90 days after the publication deadline specified in Section 2-116 of the County Code.

In accordance with the schedule contained in the EAR for making any necessary amendments to the CDMP, Planning staff initiated applications to amend the CDMP during the CDMP amendment filing period which occurs concurrent with or immediately following adoption of the EAR. The EAR will be transmitted to the State land planning agency (Department of Community Affairs), when the related CDMP amendments are transmitted to the State for its review of the amendments.

